THE

HISTORY

OF THE

Conqueſt of *SPAIN*

BY THE

MOORS.

Together with the Life of the Moſt Illuſtrious Monarch

ALMANZOR.

And of the ſeveral Revolutions Of the mighty Empire of the *Caliphs*, and of the *African* Kingdoms.

Compoſed in *Arabick* by *Abulcacim Tariff Abentariq*, one of the Generals in that *Spaniſh* Expedition; and Tranſlated into *Spaniſh* by *Michael de Luna*, Interpreter to *Philip* the Second.

Now made *Engliſh*.

LONDON,
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To the Illuſtrious and High-Born Prince, *James Fitz-James.*

Duke of *Berwick*, Earl of *Tinmouth*, Baron of *Boſworth*, &c.

May it pleaſe your Grace,

THIS Noble *Arabian* approaches you in an *Engliſh* Garb, to congratulate your *Return* from ſo fertile and ſo glorious an *Harveſt* of *Laurels*, as the *Scene* of *Buda* has afforded you this *Campaign*; and at the ſame time to demand your

Protection. His *Quality* of an *Officer*, as well as of a *Stranger*, will, doubtless not only *apologize* for this *Intrusion*, but *endear* him to all the *Generous* and *Brave*. He courts *Your* Graces Patronage, as *knowing that* once obtain'd, it will be an infallible *means* to make his own *Merits* known. The *Republick* of *Letters* is more than a little *indebted* to his *Countrey-men*, for the nicest *Speculations*, we have in all sorts of *Sciences*; and *We* particularly to *him* for this *History*, containing such *variety* of *Revolutions*

and

and *Events*. This is *what*, I hope will *attone* for my *Preſumption*, in uſhering this Noble *Forreigner* into your *Preſence*. He was ſenſible he could no where *liſt* himſelf under greater *Gallantry* and *Expectation*, and that his being *your* Volunteer afforded *him* a mighty *Proſpect* of a new *Scene* of *Conqueſts*. Here, My Lord, *he* ſtrikes in with the *Univerſal Opinion*; for how far may we not *extend* our *hopes* from ſuch an *indefatigable Application* to *labour*, ſuch a *matchleſs Intrepidity*, ſuch a *maturity*

of

of Conduct in ſuch *green Years*, ſuch a *number* of *Trophies*, with the *Rapidity* of your *Progreſſes* in the *Field* of *Honour*, of which the *Spahies*, *Janizaries*, and *Tartars*, are the *ſad Hiſtorians*? Yet tho' the *greatneſs* of your *Exploits*, is what all the *World* knows, and all the *World* admires; yet, your Grace ha's other *Embelliſhments* that will no leſs *deck* up your *Triumphs* than all the *luſtre*, derived for the more *glorious Expeditions*. *Theſe* are thoſe *precious Gifts*, thoſe *rare Talents* of *Nature*, that

mixture

mixture of *Sweetneſs* and *Majeſty* that covers all your *Illuſtrious Perſon*, that *Character* of a *Heroe* engrav'd no leſs in your *Face* than in your *Actions*; that *eaſineſs* of *Acceſs*, *familiarity* of *Converſe*; that *Soul*, *great*, *good*, *and generous*, and in *every* thing *proclaiming* the *Divinity* of *your* Extraction. *Theſe* are the *Excellencies* that have already gain'd you an *Empire* over all *Hearts*; with which the *Nation* muſt be *contented*, till ſuch *time* as that our *Mighty Prince* ſhall bid March to the *beſt Troops*

in

in the *World.* And *theſe* are the *Excellencies* that do the more *particularly* engage *me* to be *eternally*, with *Devotion*,

My Lord,

Your Graces moſt Obedient,
and moſt Humble Servant,

M. T.

THE PREFACE OF *Abulcacim Tariff Abentariq.*

PRaiſed and Glorified be, for evermore one ſole God ★, *and Creator of all things, whoſe Reign is without beginning, and without middle, as well as without end. The Being from whence proceeds all Beings: The firſt and only cauſe that ſubſiſts of it ſelf, and gives motion to all others, which it cauſes to act through incomprehenſible Reſorts, moving as it pleaſes, the Hearts of all Men, and particularly that of*

★ In *Arabick, Alhaliq, Alhadin.*

of Kings; to accompliſh by them, as ſecond cauſes upon Earth, what Providence has reſolv'd on from all Eternity in Heaven; who puniſhes him that merits it by his Juſtice, and predeſtines whomever he pleaſes by his Mercy, ſeeing written together, and of one and the ſame date, the paſt, preſent and future, in the great Book of his infinite knowledge.

To this great God do I make my humble Addreſſes, to obtain the force I ſhall need to write exactly and truly, The Hiſtory of the Conqueſt of Spain, *and the Wars occaſion'd by the Death of* Caliph Aboulvalid Almanzor, *not only in that great Kingdom, but in* Africa, *and throughout the whole extent of the* Arabians: *firſt of all among the Princes his Children, and afterwards among the*

* In Arabick *Miuſeh*, that is without doubt, *Miſiah*, Invention, by reaſon he has done it without any forging.

the Governours of all his Kingdoms; who after having revolted againſt their King, wag'd War upon one another, about the diviſion of that great Empire. As I will add nothing of my ſelf to ſuch great events, ſave ſuch conſiderable matters as occurr'd in thoſe times; I neither expect nor merit Honour or Profit: I only require of him that ſhall read what I am going to write, that he would pray God to teach me what I ought to do for his ſervice; and that he would ſupply what is not in me by his Grace: And indeed I am well aſſur'd of being blam'd for having undertaken ſo vaſt a deſign, and that ſeveral will find (as it is true) that it required both more lofty and more poliſh'd Genuiſſes than mine, to give the neceſſary Weight and Authority to ſo great a Work.

In Arabick *Fach neallalbimar*, Highland.

But

But after having agreed with them in this, they will allow me to tell them the Reaſons that made me take Pen in Hand; and perhaps, they will be ſatisfy'd when I ſhall tell them that I was preſent in that War, from the firſt day that General Tariff *entred* Spain *with Count* Julian, *until that he had finiſh'd that Conqueſt; and that there was no Battel nor Occaſion, but whereat I was in Perſon, excepting the Sieges of* Carmona, *and of* Merida; *by reaſon that at that time, I was in the Province of* Grenada, *with that great Captain.*

Thus I may ſay, that I have been an Eye-witneſs of moſt of the things whereof I ſpeak; and that as for thoſe I have not ſeen in all times, I have had the Curioſity to be informed of them from Perſons who

who could know them better; as from the Principal Officers and Generals of Armies, who have themſelves given me the Letters and Memoires whereof I make mention in this Hiſtory, that I might be accordingly provided for the writing it one time or other.

*Wherefore I may hope that thoſe as ſhall take the pains to read it, inſtead of Wondering at my Boldneſs, will con me thanks for my * Good Will, and will have ſome indulgence for the faults as ſhall doubtleſs, in great numbers occur therein, when they ſhall conſider that there is no Body in the World exempt from them, and that we ought to mind our own, before we judge of thoſe of others; nay, ſome there will be that will find there would have been much more reaſon to have blam'd me, had I not made*

* *Ni acha mila*, Inclination.

any

any Memoires of all I had ſeen, than to have made them ſuch as they are; and the greateſt Criticks will be oblig'd to own, That if all Authors that undertake to write Hiſtory, had like me, had ſome part in the Events they deſcribe, their Works would be much better receiv'd by the Publick, and not be, as they are, for the moſt part, full of Falſities and Uncertainties.

I make no Difficulty to ſpeak in this manner, for as at the very moment that I write theſe great things, there are ſtill People of that time, that, as well as me, have ſeen the greateſt part of them, and who can give me the lye, if I do not relate them according as they paſs'd? I ſhall content my ſelf with taking them to witneſs of the truth; and I willingly ſubmit my ſelf to their Cenſure.

THE

THE PUBLISHER TO THE READER.

SInce the Novelty of the matter, and the Form of this enſuing Hiſtory, do poſſibly require ſomething to be ſaid for its better Illuſtration, I ſhall a little ſtreſs upon thy Patience, Gracious Reader, by ſo modiſh a Tranſgreſſion as that of a Preface. A man ſeldom arrives at a Delicate Entertainment without running the Gauntlet of a bundance of Formality; ſeldom gets to Court without ſtanding

ſtanding the Brunt of continual Ceremony; nor to the Enjoyment of a Miſtreſs without bruſhing through a Confounded deal of VVooing and Riffling: And yet without being an Epicure, Ambitious, or a Lover; if the Scene be new, whatever trouble it may have coſt him, he finds his ſatisfaction. Now this is matter to urge for my Excuſe in the preſent inſtance: For undoubtedly, hardly has there ever been ſuch very conſiderable Occurrences and Revolutions in the VVorld as thoſe here deſcribed, and yet with which we are leſs acquainted: Thus the Learned, as well as others, will have wherewithal to gratify their Curioſity, and augment their Knowledge. This is abundantly made out by the Tran-

Tranſlator, in the Diſſertation he had annnex'd: But he going into *France* this Summer, and leaving his Copy with a Friend, that Friend handed it to the Preſs; and it was agreed it would make the Compleater Book, were the Diſſertation adjoyn'd to the ſecond and laſt Volume; though it proves the Truth of this Hiſtory, by conferring it with the Hiſtory of *Spain*, and ſeveral *Arabian*, *Turkiſh*, and *Perſian* Manuſcripts. His abſence muſt at the ſame time Apologize for ſome, perchance, unpoliſh'd paſſages, which he would have refined had they paſs'd his Review; which poſſibly, ſo far from being Blemiſhes, like Moles, rather heighten the Beauty.

But bating ſuch ſmall ſlips, what can be of more importance, than an account both of one of the greateſt and leaſt known Heroes that was ever in the VVorld, as was that Famous *Arabian* Monarch *Almanzor*; who after having taken *Damaſcus*, and Conquer'd the greateſt part of *Perſia*, and the *Indies*, render'd himſelf Maſter of all *Africa* that was known at that time; and whoſe Generals, having reduc'd *Spain* in ſubjection to him, could hardly curb themſelves from paſſing the *Pyrenees*, and undertaking the Conqueſt of *France*, before they had received orders from their Maſter for that purpoſe. Yet do not our Hiſtorians ſo much as agree upon this mighty Princes Name, of the time when

when he Reigned, nor of the Year when the *Moors* paſs'd the Streight.

But the Principal cauſe of our little acquaintance with this, and other the Hiſtories of the *Eaſtern* Princes, is the Ignorance of the *Arabick*, *Perſian*, *Turkiſh*, and *Mauritanick* Languages, which hinders us from being ſo Critical as to know the good, from bad Books, written in thoſe Tongues; and the difficulty there is, not only in underſtanding them aright, but in reading them alſo aright; inſomuch, that after many Years Study, few People but do at length deſiſt.

VVherefore we muſt needs own our ſelves the more indebted to *Michael de Luna*, for having taken the pains to Tranſlate

ſlate *Abulcacim's* VVorks into *Spaniſh*; ſince this ſingle Hiſtory may ſtand in Competition with all thoſe of the *Greeks* and *Romans*. And indeed, the Circumſtances of the Conqueſt of *Spain* by the *Moors*, in the Year 712 of our Lord, are ſo curious, and the Life of the *Caliph Almanzor*, under whom this great Event happen'd, ſo fine, that *Abulcacim Abentari*, who accompany'd *Tariff* and *Muca* throughout that whole Expedition, may be ſaid to Challenge more Credit than *Arrian*, who only writ after the Memoires of *Ptolomy* and *Ariſtobulus*, who attended *Alexander* in his; and that he has all the Qualifications neceſſary to merit the Character of the moſt perfect of Hiſtorians.

Now

Now to ſhew the Authentickneſs of the *Arabick* Original, and the *Spaniſh* Verſion, many of the moſt Eminent *Spaniſh* Authors, as *Pedraſa*, *Rodrigo Caro*, *Bleda*, and others, Quote and Commend *Abulcacim Tariff*, as an Author the moſt worthy of Credit they knew: And as for *Michael de Luna*, his Tranſlator, as he was a Citizen of *Grenada*, whence the *Moors* had not been long driven, he could know by Tradition many things that had relation to this Hiſtory: And in all probability having been choſen by *Philip* the Second, to be Interpreter of the *Arabick* Tongue; and having doubtleſs had a great part in the Scrutiny made after *Arabick* Books, that compos'd the greateſt part of the *Eſcurial* Li-

brary, he must have seen and examin'd all those that speak of the same subject; and that he would not have chosen it to have given it to the Publick, if he had not judg'd it more worthy of it than all the rest.

We shall not descend to justifie this History particularly, referring that to the *Dissertation* in the second Volume; wherein it is compar'd, and put to the Test with the most Authentick *Oriental* Manuscripts. Besides, we have been but too rude already, in detaining thee so long, when the Entrance is so alluring. History is the Mistress of all Mankind; a Mistress that Refines and Diverts the Ingenious, new Polishes the gross and uncouth, and has Reformed me; and so, out of Gratitude, my

Darling.

Darling. But through an over-great Publick Spirit, I could no longer deny the *Engliſh* VVorld the Poſſeſſion of ſo Raviſhing a Miſtreſs; and ſo have ground to hope that this piece of Generoſity will meet with ſuch a due Acceptance, as may quicken me to haſten out the next, and indeed more entertaining Volume. And ſo Farewel.

A

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PART I.

Containing the Life of Don Rodrigo, *King of* Spain. *The Conqueſt of that Kingdom under the* Caliph Valid Almanzor: *And the Wars which his Death occaſion'd in* Africa, *in* Europe *and* Aſia, *between his Children and his Generals.*

Luna and all the *Spaniſh* Authors put *Mira mamolin*, inſtead of *Emir el mumenin*, Prince of Believers. *Almanzor* ſignifies Auguſt, Victorious. *Caliphe*, Vicar, Succeſſor.

CHAP.

CHAP. I.

Anagilda, *King* Acosta's *Widdow, withdraws, with the Prince her Son, to* Cordoua. Rodrigo *invites her to bring him back to Court to assist at a Festival. She goes thither, and departs thence forthwith.*

IN the Year 91 of the *Hegira*, *Spain* was govern'd by a King call'd *Rodrigo*, of the Race of the *Goths*; a People that came into that Country from the farthest parts of the North, and who made profession of the *Christian* Religion. This Kingdom did then enjoy a profound Peace, and was as much under his subjection, as *Arabia* could be formerly to the Great *Almanzor*, our Soveraign Lord. Insomuch that this unhappy Prince (for we may well term him so) had the freedom to abandon himself to all the Vices, whereof Idleness is commonly the source.

Hegira signifies Series, from whence the *Arabs* begin to reckon their years. The year 91 of the *Hegira* falls in with the year 712 of our Lord.

What curb'd him, was the young Prince *Don Sancho*, Son to the late King *Acoſta*, his Eldeſt Brother; to whom by conſequence * the Crown was devolved after his Death, and which had been only conferr'd upon him until the Majority of his Nephew. But he was loath to reſign ſo precious a Pledge, and his thoughts were wholly taken up in contriving the means to appropriate the whole Authority to himſelf; which to him did not ſeem ſufficiently Charming, as long as it was only borrow'd.

* *Har Malmucq*, Royal Scepter.

The more his Nephew became fortify'd in Body and Mind, the more this unnatural Unkle became peeviſh and uneaſie. The Affection which all the Grandees bore him, much before the time giving him a * Jealouſie, which he had much ado to diſſemble.

* *Aldabir*, to ſhew another thing outwardly.

Queen *Anagilda* having ſooner than any other, perceiv'd the ill will he bore her Son, ſeldom ſuffer'd him out of her ſight, and only plac'd ſuch perſons about him, as of whoſe fidelity ſhe was well aſſur'd. But, in ſhort, the Affection ſhe had for *Don Sancho* making her ſhrift into all *Rodrigo*'s pernicious Deſigns, and to foreſee the ſtorm that was

was ſuddenly like to come pouring upon her Head; ſhe ask'd *Rodrigo*'s Permiſſion to leave *Toledo*, the uſual Abode of the Kings of *Caſtille*, to retire to a City in *Andalouſia*, called *Cordoua*, whither ſhe took along her Son, and all her Houſhold. This Reſolution, which *Rodrigo* durſt not thwart, made him harbour new and ſtronger Diſtruſts: He every moment fancy'd that his Nephew had attain'd to his years of Majority; that the Scepter was to be put into his Hands, and of an abſolute King as he was, become his Subjects * Pupil: And looking on this fall as a thing worſe than Death, he found no better means to ſcreen himſelf from it, than to diſpatch as ſoon as poſſible *Don Sancho* out of the World.

* *Alcabir*, ſubmitted, ſubjected.

To bring this Deſign the more eaſily and ſecretly about, he caus'd a Turnament to be proclaim'd at *Toledo*; where ſeveral days were wholly ſpent in the Preparations for ſo great an Entertainment: And as all People were invited to be there on the day it was to begin, he ſent a Courier on purpoſe to *Cordoua*, earneſtly to entreat Queen *Anagilda* to Honour it with her Preſence,

and with that of the Prince her Son. This Princeſs ever labouring under the apprehenſions of ſome Treachery, at firſt wav'd with Excuſes the undertaking of this Journey; but at laſt, being preſs'd by the Meſſengers that were ſent upon the heels of one another, ſhe conſulted thoſe in whom ſhe thought ſhe might confide: They all agreed, That the Diffidence ſhe harbour'd of her Brother-in-Law was well grounded, but that it became her not to ſuffer it to be perceiv'd: That *Rodrigo* wou'd eaſily gueſs the Reaſon why the Prince went not to Court, and ſo might be urg'd to Extremities, for which they ought not to give him any occaſion.

Immediately after, Orders being given for the Departure, and the rumours thereof being ſpread about *Andalouſia*, ſeveral Perſons of Quality came to ask the Queen leave to attend her; and ſhe being willing to be accompany'd by the moſt People ſhe could, with joy accepted their offers. Thus did ſhe repair with a very numerous, brisk and ſtately Train into the Province of *Caſtille*; at her arrival at *Toledo*, ſhe was there received with all the Honours due to her, and found the Court extraordinary full. She

She was lodg'd, with all her Train, in a Stately Palace, wherein she had hardly remain'd the time necessary to recreate herself after the fatigue of so great a March, but that the day appointed for the solemnity of that Festival being come, she was conducted in Ceremony, upon * a Scaffold erected, and spread with Tapistries magnificently, in a place where the Prince *D. Sancho* sat in the middle, having the King his Unkle on his Right Hand, and the Queen his Mother on his Left.

* *Maderch*, a Scaffold.

As soon as this Entertainment was over, (it having been perform'd with much Joy and Magnificence) notwithstanding the earnest entreaties and instances made by the King *D. Rodrigo*, to oblige *Anagilda* to stay some days to divert herself in his Court, she remain'd fix'd in the Resolution she had taken; and alledging the best Reasons she could bethink herself of, she took her leave of him, and return'd in all haste to *Cordoua*, with her Son, and all the Company she had brought along.

Rodrigo being extremely vext, that so sudden a departure had robb'd him of the means of executing his perverse Intentions, and touch'd to the quick,

that in the Journey *Don Sancho* had taken to *Toledo* the Grandees of the Court, the Governours of Places, the Prelats, and the People * had treated him in his own Preſence, as their real King; he knew not what courſe to take to render himſelf the ſole Maſter of *Spain*: He roll'd a thouſand things in his mind, but paus'd not upon one without finding a thouſand Difficulties in't, and out of which he could, with any likelihood, promiſe himſelf a good iſſue. At laſt he reſolv'd upon what we ſhall ſee in the following Chapter.

* *Alhamemma*, the Common People, the Commons.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Rodrigo *causes the Prince* Don Sancho *to be taken into Custody. His Mother frees him out of Prison, and goes with him into* Africa.

Rodrigo, after having miss'd of so fair an occasion to rid himself of his Nephew, was too much dejected for to be able to resolve on any thing in himself. But it was not sufficient to find out expedients, there needed such People as were capable of making use of them. *Astolpho* was the man of all the Court in whom he had the most Confidence; wherefore upon him did he unburden himself of a [b] Secret, that lay so much the heavier upon him, as that he meant to have kept it to himself; and offer'd him at the same time all the Gold and Money that was in his Power, and the Governments of the most considerable Places of his King-

[b] *Arm*, the Care, the thing.

dom, if he could help him to bring about his deſign.

Aſtolpho wanting neither Induſtry nor Malice, adviſ'd him to practice falſe Witneſſes, that might charge *Don Sancho* with ſome great Crime: Repreſenting to him, That when he ſhould cauſe him to be confin'd under the colour of Juſtice, no body could find fault therewith; and that during the Prince's Impriſonment, it would be eaſie for him, either to put him to death, or to render himſelf in ſuch manner Maſter of the Kingdom, that it would be impoſſible to diveſt him of its Adminiſtration.

The King very much reliſhing this Contrivance, was not long without cauſing *D. Sancho*'s Proceſs to be made; who by the Informations, was found charg'd with Crimes as black and notorious, as needed to authorize the clapping him up into Priſon.

Aſtolpho having receiv'd the Commiſſion for this purpoſe, departed from *Toledo*, without the leaſt ſuſpicion being had of the occaſion of his Journey, and reaching *Cordoua* before it could in the leaſt get Wind, he entred the Prince's Chamber, whom he found

ſleep-

ſleeping, in perfect ſecurity from any ſuch like Treaſon; and paſſing with all expedition acroſs the City, that dreamt not in the leaſt how matters went, he carry'd him through the Mountains making the Deſart, that ſeparate *Caſtille* from *Andalouſia*, into a little Town that may be ſeen from *Cordoua*, from which it is not far diſtant; and is call'd *The Tower of Stone*.

The Tower of Stone *in Sierra Merena*, Land or Mountain, brown, black.

The Queen, amaz'd at ſo unexpected a Blow, was for ſome while without knowing what to reſolve on; but as ſhe had more Courage than her Sex does uſually afford, and quickly ſuſpected how the caſe ſtood, ſhe reſolv'd at any rate to free her Son out of ſo great a Danger. Inſomuch, that having caus'd five and twenty of the braveſt men of her houſhold to take Horſe and Arms, as well as five and thirty others, whom ſhe order'd to follow her on foot. She herſelf went with this ſmall Troop after thoſe that carry'd away her Son, whom ſhe overtook in that Tower, I have newly mention'd.

At firſt *Aſtolpho* meant to have ſtood upon his Defence, but having vigorouſly attack'd him, and kill'd all his Men, ſhe her-

herſelf took him Priſoner, and brought her Son back to *Cordoua*.

She at firſt deſign'd to have fortify'd herſelf in that Town, and to have provided it with all things neceſſary, but fearing *Rodrigo* might come to beſiege her there, ſhe packed up all ſhe had moſt precious, and having aſſembled her moſt truſty Servants, ſhe withdrew to the moſt Weſtern part of *Spain*, into a place called the *Algeſires*, belonging to Count *Julian*; the ſame that a little while after occaſion'd the loſs of *Spain*. Not finding herſelf even there in ſufficient ſecurity, ſhe thought the beſt courſe wou'd be to put the Sea between her and *D. Rodrigo*, and go ſeek in a foreign Country for ſuccours to conquer her own. This Reſolution * being taken, ſhe caus'd *Aſtolpho*'s Noſe and Ears to be cut off, as a Traytor to his King; and paſs'd the Streight, after having ſent him back to the King her Brother-in-Law, with a Letter, which, Tranſlated out of *Spaniſh* into *Arabick*, is as follows.

* *Aſcald*, Deſign, Reſolution.

The

The Letter of Queen *Anagilda*, the Prince *Don Sancho*'s Mother, to the King *D. Rodrigo*.

This Letter was found in King *D. Rodrigo*'s Cabinet at *Cordova*, and as it was translated out of *Spaniſh* into *Arabick*, by *Abentariq*, was again put into the tongue out of which it was originally turn'd.

The Unhappy Anagilda, *to the Traytor*, D. Rodrigo.

Health to him that does not deſerve it.

THy Natural Malignity, and the deſire thou haſt, at any rate, to Reign, muſt needs have plung'd thee into a ſtrange Blindneſs, for to render thee ſo unjuſt as to go about to practize falſe Witneſſes againſt an Innocent; ſo perfidious as to fail in thy Loyalty to thy Lord; ſo unnatural as to rob thy Nephew of his Life.

All the Laws of Knighthood, as well as thoſe of humanity, do not ſuffer the revenging one's ſelf on thoſe that have meant us the moſt miſchiefs, as ſoon as they can no longer do us any: Nay, and Generoſity requires that we pardon them, tho they have done us hurt; but the leaſt of theſe Vertues

Vertues is too great for thee: Thou wilt not ſo much as know what theſe ſame Duties are, and doſt not mind the praiſes that are gain'd by fine Actions; ſince that inſtead of being for the Truth, which is the friend of God, thou makeſt it thy whole buſineſs to ſtifle it, and to declare thy ſelf againſt it; vowing the ruine of him that never had the leaſt thought to offend thee; and who, on the contrary, has had ſo much confidence in thee, that he put himſelf under thy Protection.

Thou wouldſt do much better to make War upon thy Enemies, and conquer ſome one of their Provinces, than to attack a Woman and a Child; wherein thou haſt not any Honour to acquire; and wherein thou canſt not miſs of ruining it in this World, to loſe after that thy Soul in the other. Learn to harbour no longer ſuch * *empty and ſuch Criminal Deſigns; and think of leading no longer ſuch a diſorderly Life as that thou leadeſt; while that God, who only requires the* * *Converſion of the Sinner, may ſtill grant thee Mercy.*

* Hiaan, bad Deſign.

* Taube, Penitence, Change.

Doſt thou think that thy Reign will laſt always? Doſt thou not know that only that of God hath no end? That all the Kings of the Earth are but Duſt; that they

they muſt one day become Duſt again; and that when after thy Death, thou ſhalt appear before his Tribunal, thou wilt only carry along with thee thither, the Good and Evil thou haſt done in this Life.

*I Challenge thee in his Name, and ſummons thee to reſtore the Crown to whom it belongs, and to reſt ſatisfy'd with thy Condition. If thou doſt not do it, aſſure thy ſelf, that though I am a Woman, and weak by Conſequence, Truth ſhall ſtrengthen me, and make me triumph, with the help of God, over all thy Artifices *; that will all vaniſh into ſmoak: The Innocence of my Son, as well as my own, will be Chains of Iron, which all thy efforts can never break; and the Calumny and Treaſon wherein thou wouldſt involve us, will laſt no longer than threds of rotten Flax: whereas the juſtice of my Cauſe being firm and ſtable as Marble, will appear in the Eyes of all the World, as clear and as pure as Criſtal. It is eaſie for thee to judge of the little reaſon thou haſt, by the little help Heaven gives thee. Thou ſendeſt to take an Innocent with a Troop of Guards, as if he had been a Malefactor: God has broke thoſe bonds; and if thou doubtſt it, thou needeſt only to ſee the Noſe and Ears of him, to whom thou gaveſt*

* *Algadr*, Treaſon.

gaveſt thy Commiſſion for that purpoſe, who will inform thee whether thou or we have the beſt Right. I will put an end to my Letter; but take this along, That I am not at all reſolv'd to put an end to either my Cares, or my Endeavours againſt thee; from which, on the contrary, I will never deſiſt, till ſuch time as that I am fully Reveng'd.

From the *Algeſires*, on the 23 day of *January*, in the year 750 of the *æra* of *Cæſar*.

* The *æra* of *Cæſar*, from whence the *Spaniards* began to reckon their years is thirty eight years before our Lord.

The Superſcription of the Pacquet was to *D. Rodrigo, the Tyrant and Uſurper of D. Sancho his Nephews Kingdom.*

Rodrigo in the mean while, thinking he had taken his meaſures aright, flatter'd himſelf with the hopes of ſuddenly ſeeing that Priſoner arrive, whom he had ſo great a longing to rid himſelf of; but ſtrangely was he ſurpriz'd, when he ſaw his dear *Aſtolpho* come all disfigur'd as he was, diſclaiming againſt, and curſing his ill fortune. He was much more ſo, when having ask'd him, Who had put him into that condition?

condition? He acquainted him how that having taken *Don Sancho*, and bringing him along towards *Toledo*, the Queen his Mother iſſued out of *Cordova*, with abundance of Horſe and Foot, and had us'd ſuch expedition, that ſhe had overtaken him on the way, had cut all his Party to pieces, whatever reſiſtance he had been able to make, to endeavour to hinder her from reſcuing his Priſoner from him; and that ſhe would, doubtleſs, have put him to Death as well as the reſt, had ſhe not thought fit to reſerve him to carry him this Letter; which he did not expect would be over welcome. The King, after having taken it, ask'd what was become of *Anagilda* and her Son? And he having reply'd, That they had taken Shipping for *Africa*, he was ſo ſorely griev'd, that his Affliction had like to have made him run mad. He went and ſhut himſelf up in his Cloſet, that he might ſo with the more freedom give a looſe to the vexation he had for the unhappy event of his Enterprize. He could not then forbear opening the Queens Letter; and as Truth has great force, he felt in that moment ſome Repentance for what

what he had done. But Ambition being the ruling Paſſion of his Soul *, the remorſe of his Conſcience did not trouble him ſo much, as the fear he had leſt *Anagilda* ſhould go demand ſuccours of the *Moors* againſt him. This made him ſend in all haſte for Count *Julian*, to whom belong'd the Caſtle of the *Algeſires*, where ſhe had reſided for ſome time before ſhe went into *Africa*, that he might by him diſcover the intention of her Journey into thoſe parts. This Count being come to Court, and having aſſured the King, that ſhe went away with a Reſolution to prevail with the *Moors* to wage War upon him, he reſolv'd to ſend this Count into *Africa*, to endeavour to divert this Storm; and to procure the better welcom for his Letters to *Muca*, who was then Vice-roy for the *Caliph Valid-Almanzor*, he accompany'd them with a world of Preſents *, and made him the offer of entring into a Treaty of Alliance with his Maſter. *Anagilda* in the mean while falling ſick, through Grief rather than fatigue, was oblig'd to ſtay for for ſome time at a City of *Africa* call'd *Tangier*; by which means Count *Julian* had ſeen the Vice-roy, and

* *Fagr*, Mind, thought.

* *Haddavia*, or rather *Haddya*, Preſents.

and preſented him with the Jewels ſent him by *Rodrigo*, before he had heard talk of her. *Muca* receiv'd him with much Honour; and after having treated him ſeveral times in a Houſe he had caus'd to be prepar'd for that purpoſe, he made him anſwer, That he could not of his own head reſolve upon any thing of what *Rodrigo* required; but that if he would ſtay ſome time, he would write to the Caliph *Almanzor*, who would, undoubtedly, receive in due manner the advances of ſo great a King; and would do all that ſhould be moſt fitting, and moſt ſuitable for both.

During theſe Tranſactions, *Rodrigo* receiv'd Tydings, that *Anagilda* and *D. Sancho* were both dead at *Tangier*; which inſpir'd him with mighty Joy, ſeeing himſelf at the point he had ſo long wiſh'd to be at; and believing he had now nothing more at all to fear. He nevertheleſs imagin'd that the Amity of the *Moors* might be of ſome uſe to him: For which reaſon, he wrote to Count *Julian*, that notwithſtanding the Prince's Death, he ſhould nevertheleſs remain in *Africa*, to wait the event of his Embaſſy.

After having taken theſe Precautions for abroad, his thoughts were now only bent how to ſecure all things at home, where were ſtill ſome Princes that might diſpute the Crown with him. He caus'd the States to be held at *Toledo*, where, *D. Sancho*'s Death being made known, he caus'd an Oath of Allegiance to be taken to him by all the Grandees there aſſembled, as *Don Sancho*'s Lawful Succeſſor to the Crown. He had likewiſe his Coronation perform'd in great Ceremony, and with all the rejoycing that is wont to be us'd in ſuch like ſolemnities. But in the midſt of all this Joy, could not he refrain from labouring under ſome Diſquiet; and to free himſelf wholly from it, and to put himſelf into a poſture that he ſhould not need to dread any thing from any of the Grandees, or any of his Subjects, the only People he imagin'd he needed to fear, having learnt the good ſucceſs of the *African* Negotiation; he bethought himſelf of expedients, whereof mention ſhall be made in the following Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Rodrigo *cauſes moſt of the Fortreſſes of his Kingdom to be diſmantled; and commits ſeveral Violences, that make him incur the anger of God.*

IT is very true, and Men have daily but too much Experience of it) that having once believ'd Fortune * propitious, we ought not to expect that it will ſo long continue: On the contrary, as it has not any ſtability; and that it is inconſtancy it ſelf; the more it ſmiles upon us, the more ought we to diſtruſt it; and often expect that ſhe delights to invite us, by ſmall baits and allurements, to run after her, to abandon us afterwards, when we ſhall ſtand moſt in need of her ſuccours.

* *Albath*, Fortune, felicity, perhaps *Debetz*, whiteneſs.

Of this there can be no greater, nor a more illuſtrious Example found than *Rodrigo*: For after having render'd him abſolute Maſter of all *Spain*, and procur'd

cur'd him to be Crown'd King thereof; ſhe took a pleaſure in * deſpoyling him in a ſhort time, of all ſhe had conferr'd on him, and tumbled him from his Throne, by the ſame means he pretended to make uſe of to defend himſelf on it.

* *Albufraxz*, loſs, deſtruction, from the Root. *Saram* renders it miſerable.

Such of his Subjects as he moſt diſtruſted (for he had no longer any Apprehenſion from Strangers) were ſome Grandees, and Governours of the Places of *Andalouſia*, and of *Caſtile*, who had been of *D. Sancho*'s Party. Wherefore he began to make ſure of their Perſons; and after having put them to Death, he caus'd not only their Caſtles to be raz'd, but moſt of the ſtrong Places of *Spain*; reſerving to himſelf only ſuch as ſeem'd to him moſt neceſſary for his own ſecurity; wherein he put ſuch men as were wholly at his Devotion. He did not think this ſufficient; He caus'd Proclamation to be made through all his Territories, That not any of his Subjects henceforwards ſhould have the boldneſs to bear any ſort of Arms, nor to keep any in his Houſe; and that all People ſhould bring them into his Palace, upon pain of Death; imagining that after the People had thus laid aſide the

the Exerciſe * of War, and ſhould only addict themſelves to Agriculture, his Government would be much more abſolute, and much more quiet.

* *Akbiad.*

But the poor Prince was much miſtaken, for not being then curb'd by any fear, he abandon'd himſelf to all manner of Irregularities and Diſſolutions, according as I have been told by *Spaniſh* Biſhops, and other perſons worthy of Credit, of whom I made enquiry, during my abode in that Country: So far as that he made no difficulty to put the worthieſt perſons of all his Kingdom to Death, that he might have his Pleaſure with their Wives and Daughters. So looſe a Life occaſion'd an Univerſal Diſorder: For as Kings are look'd upon by their Subjects as the Models by which they ought to ſquare all their Actions; and that, indeed, they ſeldom fail to imitate their Vertues, and ſtill more their Vices: The bad Example of this Prince paſs'd on to the People, who would needs equal him in Wickedneſs and Libertiniſm; inſomuch that we need not wonder at the puniſhment God inflicted upon them.

Rodrigo being ſtill young, either out of the deſire of perpetuating himſelf,

which Nature inſpires into all Animals*; or from that of having lawful Children that might ſucceed him, which is a ſentiment peculiar to Men; he had a great deſire to Marry, but he could not find out a fitting Match.

* *Haigna*, what has Life: from thence comes the name of *Eve*.

At that time was there in the *Eaſtern* part of *Africa* a King call'd *Mahomet Abhekedin*, who had but one Daughter, of an extraordinary Beauty, call'd * *Zahra Abnaliaca*: This young Princeſs walking one Evening upon the Sea-ſhore, with her Maids, and ſome of her Fathers Servants, it ſeem'd to her ſo Calm and Charming, that the fancy took her to go on board a Ship, ſo to divert herſelf upon the Water. Her Attendants, without making over much Reflection upon what they did, did not divert her from the Deſign. The Marriners made ready the Ship, all her Company were eager to go with her on board, and in the merry pin they all were; they did not mind that they diſtanc'd themſelves a little too far from the Land, whither they did not trouble their Heads about returning, while it was in their Power. In the mean while the Wind changing all on the ſudden,

*The *Spaniards* call her *Eliana*.

ſudden, the Storm became ſo great, that being unable to put into any Port of *Africa*, they were conſtrain'd to abandon themſelves to the open Sea; and were at length drove upon the Coaſts of *Spain*, in a place call'd * *Alcapta* by the *Arabians*, which in that Tongue ſignifies a Place of ill luck; and by the *Spaniards*, *Cabodegata*; where they were all taken, and made Slaves by the *Chriſtians* of that Place. It was eaſie to ſee by their Cloaths and Equipage, that they were Perſons of great Quality; inſomuch that whatever Care the *Moors* took to conceal that of the *Infanta*, ſhe was known at length, and brought, with all her Train, to *Rodrigo*; who being inform-ed of it, gave order that ſhe ſhould be handſomely received, and treated in all Places.

* *Alcapta*, Place of ill luck.

* *Hafiar*, diſguiſe, diſſemble.

He was well made and Gallant, the Princeſs was Young and Beautiful; inſomuch that Love eaſily engag'd them, and quickly augmented by the Entertainments he made her, and by the ſoft Converſations they ever had together. The thing came at length ſo far, that the King having offer'd to Marry, and place the Crown of *Spain* upon her

Head, provided ſhe would turn *Chriſtian*; ſhe, without much trouble, reſolv'd to do ſo. The Nuptials were perform'd with great rejoycing and ſolemnity. The Men and Women of her Retinue that were minded to be converted, and ſtay with their Miſtreſs, had conſiderable Settlements in *Spain*; and thoſe that could not be perſwaded to that, return'd into *Africa*, whither they brought this News. *Mahomet* being very uneaſie for his Daughter, was ſo ſurpriz'd to hear that ſhe had abjur'd his Faith, that he dy'd of Grief; and by his Death left the Crown to *Avilgualid*; who, as his neareſt Relation, ſucceeded him in his Kingdom. We ſhall ſee in the ſeries of this Hiſtory the unhappy iſſue of this Marriage, as well as the Amours of this Prince with *Florinda*.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Rodrigo *falls in love with* **Florinda,** *call'd* **La Caux** *by the* **Arabs.** *She ſignifies to* **Count Julian**, *her Father, then in* **Africa,** *the violence done her by this Prince.*

THo *Rodrigo* was marry'd, he led the ſame life he did before he was ſo: He nevertheleſs fell in Love with one of the moſt beautiful Ladies of his Court, call'd *Florinda*, Count *Julian*'s Daughter; who was at that time in his *African* Embaſſy. She had Wit enough to perceive that the Kings Courtſhip did not at all tend to her own Honour, nor to that of her Family, ſince that it, doubtleſs, only aim'd at Raviſhing her of it; and ſhe had Virtue enough to receive his fondneſſes with much indifference and Modeſty; but the more firmneſs ſhe exerted, *Reſque, Gallantry.*

ed, with the more obſtinacy did he perſevere to overcome it.

Now for the more eaſie effecting of this his purpoſe, he made ſeveral new Regulations in his Court: Among other things, he order'd that when he ſhould eat with his Queen, none but the Ladies of the Palace ſhould ſerve at Table, and requir'd them to be dreſs'd finer than ordinary on ſuch days. This being thus eſtabliſh'd, one day after Supper, whereat *Florinda* had ſerv'd with others, he ſo order'd matters, that he caus'd her to enter a Room void of all other Company, and following her thither, whatever reſiſtance and ſcreams ſhe was able to make, he gain'd of her, at length, by force, what ſhe never would have granted him.

Being under the utmoſt Deſpondency at ſuch an Outrage, and not knowing how either to be Reveng'd or Comforted, ſhe reſolv'd to make her Caſe known to her Father. In ſhort, after having contriv'd the moſt myſterious terms ſhe could bethink herſelf of, that they might only be underſtood by him, ſhe made uſe of thoſe of this Letter; which, Tranſlated out of *Spaniſh* into *Arabick*, is as follows.

Flo-

Florinda's Letter to Count *Julian*, her Father.

THe regret I have for the abſence of a Father ſo dear to me as you muſt needs be, makes me in Writing to you, ſeek the Conſolation I cannot find, of ſeeing you. Not that I mean to ſend you all the News of the Palace, that ever affords ſufficient that deſerves your knowledge; this is only to acquaint you with one, which, though it be already old in this Court, will ever be new for ſuch a Maid as I; and will ever appear in the Eyes of the whole World very ſtrange, for ſuch a great Prince as* Rodrigo. *You muſt know then, my dear Father, that I had, heedleſly, left upon a Table the Ring I ſend you in this Letter; and was not ſo careful to lock up cloſe this precious Jewel, which I eſteem'd more than my Life, and which you and my Mother had ſo earneſtly recommended to me: But the King having a deſire to it, impetuouſly threw himſelf to take it; and ſeeing I would not give it him, he drew his Sword*, and gave it ſo many hacks, that whatever ſcreams and ſtruglings I us'd to hinder him, he has,*

* *Mahran*, Houſe.

* *Hucan Almuque*, Coutelas Royal.

as

as you ſee, cloven it in two, both the Ring and Emerald enchas'd in it. So vexatious and ſo unexpected an accident plunges me into ſo much confuſion, that I cannot explain it further; and makes me conjure you to remedy it, if poſſible; for to you only can I have recourſe in this matter. My Mother is very ill, and I ſtill worſe. I pray God to preſerve you.

From *Toledo*, the 3 of *December*, in the Year * 750 of the *æra* of *Cæſar*.

* This *Epocha* is thirty eight years, or thereabouts, before the Birth of our Lord.

Count *Julian* being wiſe * and prudent, having receiv'd this Letter, preſently underſtood his Daughters meaning; and was ſo concern'd, that, without ſtaying one moment in *Africa*, he took leave of *Muca*, and return'd with all expedition to the *Algeſires*. He ſtaid in his Houſe only the time neceſſary to give his Wife order to feign her being ſick of grief, for his and her Daughter's abſence, and went directly to Court; where he made no ſemblance of knowing the leaſt of what had been ſignify'd to him in the Letter; but giving the King an account of his Negotiation, and of the ſtate he had left all things

* *Cahim*, Wife.

things in in *Africa*, he repreſented them to him in ſuch manner, as made him comprehend that it was neceſſary for him to return forthwith thither. The King, after having given him his Expeditions as ſoon as he deſired them, was very much ſurpriz'd, when at his taking his leave of him, the Count ask'd his permiſſion to carry his Daughter to the *Algeſires*, to ſtay ſome time there with her Mother, who was very ill, and mighty deſirous to ſee her. But though this went very much againſt the grain, he could not handſomely refuſe him his Requeſt. And thus the Count went with her to the *Algeſires*, where he made ſome days abode. In the following Chapter we ſhall ſee the Reſolution he took in this place.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Count Julian *being throughly inform'd of the outrage done to his Daughter, reſolv'd to be Reveng'd, and to deliver* Spain *to the* Moors.

AS ſoon as the Count was got to his own home, he made *Florinda* relate more preciſely, and more particularly what ſhe had written to him in obſcure terms; and when he was fully certain of the ſhame of his Family, and in ſuch ſort as was paſt all doubt, then was his Grief ſo much the more ſenſible, in that he ſaw that the perſon that had done him ſo great an outrage, was his Lord and King, from whom he ſeem'd to be under an obligation of enduring all, and that it was impoſſible for him to wreak his Revenge.

Wherefore not knowing what to do in this Diſtreſs, and not minded, without mature deliberation, to abandon him-

himſelf to all that his Paſſion might ſuggeſt, he, with all poſſible ſecreſie, aſſembled his Relations and Friends, who intereſting themſelves in the affront *Rodrigo* had put upon the Count, and animating one another to Revenge, after having found that they were not ſtrong enough to aſſert their Reſentments, unleſs back'd by a foreign Power, they unanimouſly reſolv'd that the Count ſhould return into *Africa* to treat with *Muca*; and that they on their parts ſhould abide in their Houſes, waiting the ſucceſs of his Voyage. After having all embrac'd one another, and engag'd to keep this Enterprize very ſecret, the Count took Shipping, with his Wife and Daughter, and whatever he had of value, which he carry'd along with him into *Africa*. He was very kindly receiv'd by the Viceroy, with whom he had ſtruck up a particular friendſhip in his Embaſſy; and told him immediately, That he was come to him, not on the behalf of the King of *Spain* as the time before, but on his own account, to offer him to deliver up all that great Kingdom to the *Caliph Almanzor*; and that if he could prevail with him to favour the Party he

Vid. the Note in the Margin of the Title, and the Preface.

he had in *Spain*, he would furnish him with the means of quickly rendring himself Master of that Realm.

This Proposal was not displeasing to *Muca*; on the contrary, after mature examination, and long Conferences with the Count, he found what he said feasible; and propos'd to him to him to go himself to the Caliph, to unfold to him more particularly the means he had to effect so great an Enterprize; and for that purpose gave him the following Letter of Credence.

A LETTER.

Praised be God, our Soveraign Lord, the Creator of all things

TO the most High, most Noble, most Illustrious Emperour of all the Arabian *Nation, and Defender of the Law of God,* Valid Almanzor; *to whom God Almighty grant Peace, and all manner of good fortune, as well as to all his Subjects, and augmentation of Glory and Dominions; as is wish'd him by his*

his faithful Servant Muca, *under his Authority, and under the Protection of the Almighty God (to whom alone is due Prayer and Sacrifice) Governour of the Dominions of* Africa: *Who writes to you, Sir, to assure you, as his Charge obliges him, of the* * *Tranquility which your Subjects of these Provinces do enjoy; and then about an affair, which will be told you by the Bearer of my Letter, who is a* Christian, *and a* Spaniard *by Nation; but who, nevertheless, shews much zeal for your Prosperity, and the augmentation of your Empire: He is call'd the Count* D. Julian, *and thinks himself very much offended by an outrage done him by the King of* Spain, D. Rodrigo, *who is the nearest Neighbour you have in the North; and I have found him true and upright in all he told me, insomuch that you may have credence in him; and, I believe, that if you would grant him the succours he requires, there will be no great danger, nor great trouble to try if all he says be true; on the contrary, with the help of God, this may produce a great good, and contribute to the encrease of your Kingdoms; as we all desire that are your faithful Servants.*

* *Alhana*, Peace. *Hana*, Repose, Conveniency.

From the Palace of *Morocco*, the 3 of the month *Dulhiſes*, in the year 91 of the *Hegira*.

This Date jumps with the month of *December*, in the year 712 of our Lord.

Count *Julian* going on board a Felucca he had caus'd to be fitted out on purpoſe; and in a ſhort time being arriv'd in *Arabia*, where *Valid* had then his Reſidence; he preſented himſelf to him, and gave him *Muca's* Letter of Credence. This Prince caus'd his Council to aſſemble, to examine a Propoſal of ſuch great conſequence. The Count was there heard with great attention: He had a thouſand Difficulties put to him, which, as he was a ſhrewd man, and underſtood * War as well as any Captain of his time, he found it no hard matter to anſwer: He had a thouſand Queſtions ask'd him; all which he neatly ſolv'd. Inſomuch that *Almanzor* being very much ſatisfy'd, it was reſolv'd on in his Council, That Orders ſhould be ſent to *Muca*, to favour the Count in all he ſhould deſire; and for that purpoſe he was diſpatcht away back with all Expedition, with this Letter for the Vice-roy of *Africa*.

* The *Arabick*, *Harb*, the *Spaniſh*, *Ardider*, Military Art, Stratagems of War.

A

A LETTER.

Praiſed be God, our Soveraign Lord.

The Supreme Ruler of the *Arabs*, Vicar of God, and Defender of his Law, *Valid Almanzor*,

To the Noble, Accompliſh'd, Virtuous and Truſty Knight, *Muca*; Governour of our Kingdoms of *Africa*; Greeting.

THE *Anſwer that is made to the Letter of Credence, brought by the Count* D. Julian, *is, That his Propoſal has been kindly receiv'd; and that he has given very pertinent Reaſons for it. Wherefore it is convenient to attempt this Enterprize, and to commit the Conduct of it to ſome good Captain; who, with a ſufficient number of Horſe and Foot, ſhould go to view the Country: Then you ſhall give us a ſuccinct account of the*

event of his Voyage, and what you ſhall think convenient to be done, that we may give orders accordingly. In the mean while God take you into his keeping.

In the month of *September*, in the year 713 of our Lord.

From our Palace of *Carval*, in *Arabia fœlix*, on the 2 of the Moon of *Sabben*, in the 92 year of the *Hegira*.

The Count *D. Julian* having brought this Letter from *Almanzor* to *Muca*, it gave him great ſatisfaction: And in purſuance of the Emperours Orders, he made a ſmall Body of ſix thouſand Foot, and ſome few Horſe, which he put under the command of a very brave man, call'd *Tariff Abenriet*, of the City of *Damas*; whom he enjoyn'd with Count *Julian* to paſs the Streight, which the *Spaniards* call of *Hercules* *, and which after this was call'd by this great Captain *Jubalfath*.

* Now call'd *Gibraltar*.

They had no ſooner landed, and choſen a place fit for the Encampment of their Troops according as they came aſhore, but that Count *Julian's* Relations and Friends came to join them, with a great number of their Vaſſals, whom they had cauſed to Revolt. *Tariff*

riff ſent immediately to view the Country. His men entred very far into it without meeting with any Reſiſtance; and after having kill'd all thoſe they met, pillag'd and ravag'd not only the open Country, but alſo the Burroughs and Towns, they return'd loaded with Booty.

Tariff ſeeing things ſtill more eaſie than he had imagin'd them, gave an immediate account accordingly to the Vice-roy; who ſignify'd to him, not to ſtay the longer for that in this Country, but to return ſpeedily again into *Africa*, with all his Troops. He obey'd his Orders, though with ſome reluctancy, and went back into *Africa* with great Riches, and an infinite number of Slaves; carrying along with him all thoſe, that having declared themſelves for Count *Julian*, durſt not ſtay any longer in *Spain*, but expected to return thither in a ſhort time with greater Forces: ws we ſhall ſee in the ſequel of this Hiſtory, they fail'd not of doing.

CHAP. VI.

Rodrigo *enters a Cave that was at the Gates of* Toledo, *and thinking to find Treaſures therein, finds only Preſages of the loſs of* Spain.

THe King *Rodrigo* having had notice of the deſcent of the *Moors* into *Spain*, with Captain *Tariff*, and Count *Julian* his Enemy ; and that, after having over-run all *Andalouſia*, they were return'd with many Slaves; was not ſo anxious for what they had newly done, as for the apprehenſion of the long and dangerous War ; with which he ſaw himſelf threatned ; it being eaſie to judge that *Tariff* had not made that tryal, to ſtop there.

He knew Count *Julian* to be a Man of Wit and Execution, of Courage, and a through knowledge of War, a Natural *Spaniard*, that knew the ſtate of his Affairs, knew the Country, had there many

many Adherents, nay, and Places, wherein he could enter and go out as often as he pleas'd. He eaſily perceiv'd, but too late, the fault he had committed, in loſing, for a moments Pleaſure, a man of ſuch importance, and in giving him to his Enemies. He made reflexion upon the bad poſture of his Kingdom, ſince he had diſarm'd his Subjects, and caus'd all the ſtrong Places to be demoliſht. He conſidered that the long Peace which *Spain* had enjoy'd, was the occaſion that he had no Diſciplin'd Troops, and that when he had aſſembled an Army, they would be only raw men: All this plung'd him into furious Diſquiets. He ask'd Counſel of all People, and found none good. At length, having conſulted an Arch-biſhop, a Relation of his, call'd *Torrife*, and having told him the little Money he had to raiſe and keep forces on foot; this Arch-biſhop perſuaded him to break open a Place called the *Enchanted Tower*, where there was ſaid to be a Treaſure. And as this is a thing very extraordinary, I am willing to inſert here at length what the ſame *Torrife* told me; who ſhortly after quitted that Kings Party,

to come to Count *Julian* in our Camp; and who could give the beſt account of it, as having been preſent when *D. Rodrigo* caus'd it to be open'd. Now this is what he then told me.

About a mile from *Toledo*, between ſteep Rocks that lye Eaſt of that great City, there was formerly a Tower, of a very ancient and very magnificent ſtructure, tho a little endamag'd by Time, that conſumes all: Under whoſe foundation was a very deep Cave, ſeparated into four different Vaults, acroſs a very narrow Entrance cut in the Rock, where a great Iron Door had been made up, with a thouſand Locks, and as many Bolts: Upon this Door there was *Greek* Characters, that ſeem'd rather Cyphers than Letters, and might be diverſely interpreted; but whoſe meaning were, (as thoſe pretended, who thought they knew them beſt) that the King that ſhould open this Cave, and diſcover all the Wonders that were therein, would certainly find a great deal of Good and Evil.

Several Kings before this, had had a deſire to ſhrift into the truth of this myſtery, but whatever Orders they had given for that purpoſe, they had never

never been able to cauſe them to be executed. Upon the opening this Door, ſo great a Noiſe was heard, that the Earth ſeem'd to open at the ſame time under the feet of thoſe that meant to enter therein: They were ſeiz'd with *Hauſ.* ſuch a dread, that moſt of 'em fell ſick upon't, ſome dy'd, and no body had the Courage to enter further. The Door had ſtill been ſhut up more ſtrongly than before, and People ſtill believ'd that the time appointed for the breaking ſo great an Enchantment was not yet come; but *Rodrigo*'s ill fate would have it that this fatal adventure was reſerved for him. He had choſen very reſolute men to enter with him into that Cave; but they had not gone very far, when the Torches they had being extinguiſh'd, the greater part fled away, out of a pannick fear which ſeiz'd them, of a terrible Hobgoblin they ſaid they ſaw. The King in great anger caus'd other Flambeaux to be lighted which he had caus'd to be made on purpoſe, after a particular manner, that ſo the air of the Cave might not put them out: With this light he entred the firſt of all, and without ſhewing any fear, tho perhaps he was not exempt

exempt from a little; hardly had he gone ſome ſteps, but that he found himſelf in a beautiful Room, enrich'd with as delicate Sculptures as thoſe we ſee in the greateſt Palaces: In the midſt of this great Room was a Brazen Statue, with a fierce poſture, plac'd upon a Pillar three Cubits high, holding in its
* *Macmah.* hand a * Battel-Axe, with which it ſtruck the Earth from time to time, and ſo ſtrongly, that there was reaſon to believe it to be partly the violent agitation it occaſioned in the air, by the blows it gave, that made the great noiſe that was heard at their entrance.

Rodrigo, tho a little ſtartled, did not however loſe Courage; and began to conjure this Phantome; telling him, That he did not pretend to commit any Diſorder in the place of his abode, and that he would go his ways as ſoon as he had ſeen all its Wonders.

He had no ſooner uttered theſe words, but the Statue left off beating the Earth. The King and his Attendants being a little encourag'd, moſt carefully viſited all the corners of that great Room. On the Left hand of the Statue they ſaw theſe words written on the Wall,

Unhappy

Unhappy Prince, thy ill Deſtiny hath brought thee hither. Turning to the Right, he found nothing better, for there was written, *Thou ſhalt be diſpoſſeſt by ſoreign Nations, and thy Subjects ſhall be puniſht as well as thee, for all their Crimes.* Upon the back of the Statue was written theſe words in *Arabick*, *To my Succours:* and upon its Breaſt theſe, *I do my Duty.*

I forgot to ſay that at the entrance of this Room there was a kind of round Fat, like a Bowl; from whence there iſſued a kind of ſpout, whoſe ſurging made a hideous murmur.

After having well conſidered all theſe things, and caus'd the Inſcriptions of them to be taken in a Table-book; the King went away very much diſturb'd, and very peeviſh; and had no ſooner turn'd his back, but that the Statue fell again to ſtriking the ground, after its uſual manner. The King caus'd this Cave to be ſhut up again more carefully than before, and had its entrance ſtopp'd with Earth, that ſo none thenceforward might enter therein, forbidding all his Attendants to make the leaſt mention of this Adventure, by reaſon of the terrour that ſo ill a preſage might

might put into all Peoples minds: But nevertheleſs is was immediately buzz'd about all the Court.

The Night following Crys were heard, that waywards, like to thoſe that People make when they are fighting; and after a Clap, that made a mighty hurly burly, this old Tower ſunk; and all people were amazed the next day to find no more footſteps of it, than if all they had ſeen before had been only a Dream.

The King having aſſembled the Wiſe men of his Kingdom, to demand of them the Explication of all he had ſeen: They found that the Brazen Statue, with its perpetual motion, ſignifyed Time, that was oblig'd never to ſtop, as was noted by the Inſcription it had upon its Breaſt. That that which was on the Back ſignifyed, that in the ſequel of time, Spain *ſhould be conquered by the* Arabians: That of the Walls preſaged, *The loſs of his Kingdom, and a great Calamity of all his People:* And that above the Door, *The great Evils the Conquered would ſuffer, and the great benefits the Victors would thence derive.*

Such

Such an Explication gave no little anxiety to *Rodrigo*, and to ſuch of his People as heard it. They all lift up their Eyes to Heaven, well ſeeing that it was from God alone that they could hope for any ſuccours. For tho they had news that *Tariff* and Count *Julian* were returned into *Africa*, this was not capable of re-aſſuring the King againſt ſo many intimations of the anger of Heaven. Whereupon he began to order the re-erecting all the Fortifications he had caus'd to be demoliſh'd; and had Proclamation made throughout his Kingdom, that the People ſhould take up again the Arms he had forbidden, and exercize themſelves therein, as before. He reſolv'd alſo to quit *Toledo*, and go make his reſidence at *Cordoua*; that ſo he might be nearer the place, from whence apparently all the miſchief was to come, and thereto apply Remedies the more eaſily.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Muca *ſends* Tariff *and Count* Julian *into* Arabia, *to give an account to* Almanzor, *of the ſucceſs of the Voyage they had made into* Spain.

Tariff Abenriet and Count *Julian* being returned into *Africa*, much ſatisfy'd with their Voyage, were there admirably well received by the Vice-roy; and after having among themſelves concerted the means of effecting their Deſign, it was reſolved, That this Captain and this Count ſhould both go to *Almanzor's* Court, to communicate to him, and render him a faithful and an exact account of all they had done, and of the propitious Diſpoſition wherein they had found the People of *Spain:* well perceiving it to be difficult by Letters to remove all the doubts *, and ſolve all the Difficulties that might be ſtarted upon an affair of ſo

* *Hiriſaf*, Inconveniences.

ſo great a moment, as the Conqueſt of ſo great a Kingdom; and ſhew upon Paper, and at a diſtance, ſo great an Enterprize, ſo eaſily as thoſe could do it by word of mouth, that had themſelves conſidered things more nearly.

Whereupon having cauſed a Ship to be fitted out, and having provided themſelves with all Neceſſaries*, as well for their Subſiſtance, as for their Safety; after having weather'd a furious Storm, they at length arrived happily in *Arabia*, where having preſented themſelves to *Almanzor*, he receiv'd them as well as they could wiſh, and had them lodg'd and treated with all their Train, and all the Souldiers they had brought along with them. *Tariff* in a few days after his arrival, had a long audience of *Almanzor*; in which, after having given him an account of all he had done for his ſervice, he promis'd him, That if he would do him the honour to ſend him back into *Spain*, and rely upon him for the Conqueſt of ſo great a Country, he would ſubdue it in a little time to his Obedience. The Confidence with which this great Captain ſpoke, had ſo mnch power over *Almanzor*'s mind, that he immediately

* *Sarra*, Martial Men.

ly caus'd his Council to aſſemble, with it, ſtill more particularly to examine a the Difficulties that might be met with in ſo great an Enterprize, and all th means he propos'd to bring it abou Whereupon, this affair having been ag tated with mature deliberation, an accordingly reported to the Emperou and debated anew again in his preſenc At laſt the Conqueſt of *Spain* was r ſolv'd on, and the rumour of the D claration of War againſt the King *D Rodrigo* ſpread immediately throughou the whole extent of the *Caliph*'s Empir *Tariff*, who had already exerted h Valour, as well as his Conduct, in othe occaſions, wherein he had acquir'd *A manzor*'s eſteem, and that of all the *Ar bians*; knowing the Country bett than any man, and having entred int ſtrict Engagements with Count *Julia* it would have been both injuſtice an imprudence to have taken from hi the Command of the Army: For whic reaſon he was at the ſame time nom nated General, and theſe are the Le ters Patents that were iſſued out to tha intent.

Letters

Letters Patents.

Praiſe be to God alone, Amen.

THE *Great and Warlike* Valid Almanzor, *of the high Lineage of* Motaleb, *Vicar of God, and the Defender of his Law; Son of the moſt High and moſt Noble Caliph, and potent Ruler of all the* Arabick *Nation*, Abdulmeleck; *to all thoſe who ſhall theſe preſent Letters ſee, Greeting. We, for certain conſiderations and juſt cauſes us thereunto moving, having Ordered, as We Order by theſe preſents, the Conqueſt of the Weſtern Kingdoms, that are poſſeſs'd by the King*, Don Rodrigo, *a* Chriſtian *by Profeſſion, our Capital Enemy; by reaſon of the great profit which will redound thence to our Subjects, and the augmentation which will thence accrue to our Empire. We have reſolved to nominate and chuſe, as We chuſe and nominate by theſe preſents, for Governour and Captain General in all thoſe Countrys, the Noble, the Virtuous, Honoured and Renowned Captain, our Vaſſal, and Faithful Servant*, Tariff Abenriet;

whom for this purpoſe We empower to go with the Troops We ſhall cauſe to be given him, into the Territories of Spain, *and there execute the Orders that we ſhall cauſe to be expedited to him, and do all that to him ſhall ſeem fitting, for the accompliſhment of our Will, without his needing to ſtay for new Orders from Us, on that acconnt. We enjoyn all Governours of Places, Officers and Souldiers, as well thoſe he ſhall lead into his Army, as thoſe of all our Realms, that they obey him, and execute his Commands, as well by Sea as by Land, as if they were iſſued out immediately from us, and Sealed with our own Seal, and Sign'd by our own Hand: Giving him for this purpoſe, Power and Authority ſufficient to give them, and expedite them, under the penalties he ſhall pleaſe to eſtabliſh; and which he may cauſe to be Executed, as Soveraign Judge, upon the Perſons and Eſtates of thoſe as ſhall Countervene them, and ſhall be Rebels to our Commands, which We have encharg'd him to accompliſh and execute, in the entire Confidence we have in him: For ſuch is our Pleaſure.*

The year 713 of our Lord, in the month of *December.*

Given in our High Preſence, in our Palace Royal of *Carval*, in *Arabia Fœlix*, in the 22 of the Moon *Dulchiſa*, in the year 92. *Al-*

Almanzor had ſtill another Captain, a *Greek* and *Renegado*, called *Hiza Humani*, in whoſe Valour he had much Confidence: He gave him the Command of the Troops he cauſed to be rais'd in the Eaſt, of which he quickly made a Body of thirty thouſand good Men, and well Armed. At the ſame time he fitted out a great number of Ships, wherein he put not only all ſorts of Ammunition, but a great abundance of Arms, Tools and Inſtruments of War. And as ſoon as this Fleet was ready, he Shipp'd all the Forces, and caus'd it to depart * on the thirteenth of the Moon of *Inmod*, and the ſecond day of the year 93.

* In the year 714 of our Lord, in the month of *June*.

This Prince, not content with theſe great preparations, imagin'd that as it was a War of Religion he was going to undertake, it was convenient to aſſemble all the *Mahometan* Forces. For which reaſon he diſpatch'd a Man away on purpoſe, to the King of *Thunis*, his Ally, to impart to him his Deſign; and repreſent to him the great advantages he might derive from the Conqueſt of *Spain*; conjuring him to come and joyn him, and ſuccour him, as ſoon as poſſible, with what Foot and Horſe he could

aſſemble. This Envoy having put himſelf into a Felucca, was not long on his Voyage, and met with a moſt welcome Reception from the King of *Thunis*, who expreſs'd much Joy to ſee, by *Aviilgalit*'s Letter, and by his Envoys diſcourſe, that he would make uſe of him in this occaſion. He caus'd the Drum immediately to be beat throughout all his Kingdom, and in a ſhort ſpace levied an Army of thirty thouſand Foot, and three thouſand Horſe; the Command of which he would needs give to Prince *Mahomet-Gilhair*, his ſecond Son. What troubled him moſt, was the few Ships he had in a readineſs to put to Sea, as not being prepar'd for ſo great an Embarkment. For which reaſon he was oblig'd to cauſe all theſe Troops to wait in a Body, till the arrival of Merchant Ships, wherein he caus'd them to embark; and at laſt weigh'd Anchor, on the 2 of the Moon of *Sanguel*, in the ſame year 93.

In the month of *Auguſt*, in the year 714.

Theſe two great Armies being arriv'd on the Coaſt of *Africa*, *Muca*, who waited for them there, after having held a Council of War with all the General Officers, found they needed ſome days

days refreſhment after the fatigue of the Sea. For which reaſon all the Troops were brought on ſhoar; and that the time they might ſpend in refreſhing themſelves might not be loſt, *Tariff* and Count *Julian* were ſent before, with a ſmall Body, to make a Deſcent into *Spain*; and enquire into the ſtate things were in ſince their Departure thence; and what Forces the King *D. Rodrigo* might have on foot. The Troops they choſe for this Expedition were to the number of ſix thouſand Foot, as well *Moors* as *Julianiſt Chriſtians*; and about three hundred Horſe: With theſe they croſs'd the Streight of *Gilbraltar*, and having found a Mountain by the Sea-ſide, fitting to Encamp the few Troops they had, *Tariff* gave it his own *Name, as being the firſt place where he began to eſtabliſh himſelf. Since the firſt entrance of the *Moors*, *Rodrigo* had not lain idle, but had made the beſt Preparations he could for War; Inſomuch, that as ſoon as he knew *Tariff* had made a freſh Deſcent, for the hindring his Fortifying himſelf there, he ſent his General *Aſſolpho*, with an Army of thirty thouſand Foot, and about five hundred Horſe, that were

* It is ſtill call'd *Tariff*.

indeed not over-well Arm'd, nor over-well Martializ'd, for the Reaſons I have already hinted.

Aſtolpho going directly to *Tariff*, and Encamping in ſight of him, there was at firſt ſeveral Skirmiſhes between the Horſe of both ſides, wherein that of *Tariff* had the diſadvantage, which ſo intimidated the *Moors*, that it had already quite diſcourag'd them; when that on the morrow morning, at break of day, one of the Sentinels perceiv'd a *Chriſtian* Woman, with a Staff in her hand, on which was a little white Streamer, for a ſign of Peace: This Woman being taken, ask'd to ſpeak with the General of the Army, ſaying, ſhe was come to bring him ſuch News as would undoubtedly be agreeable to him. As ſoon as ſhe was in *Tariff's* preſence, ſhe proſtrated herſelf at his Feet, and having embrac'd them with great ſigns of * Joy, and great demonſtrations of affection, ſhe ſpoke to him in this manner.

*Tafacrum, Careſſes Applauſe.

A Prediction made by a Religious.

Related to General *Tariff* by a *Chriſtian* VVoman.

SIgnior, I am born in Spain, *and am call'd* La Teſtue. *I remember that about ſixty years agone, when I was very young, I heard my Father relate, as I was in the Corner of his Chimney, a Prophecy, importing that the people of our Religion ſhould loſe the Government of our Country, which was to be conquer'd by the* Moors: *And among other things, it was preciſely mention'd, that the Captain who was to make this Conqueſt, ſhould be very brave, and have on his Right Shoulder a Mole very hairy, of the bigneſs of a Pea, nay, and that his Right Hand ſhould be much longer than his other; inſomuch, that without ſtooping, he might cover all his knee with that hand. He who made this Prediction is an honeſt Religious, for whom we* Chriſtians *have a ſingular veneration. I earneſtly conjure you, in caſe you have theſe marks I have newly ſpecified, in re-*

compence for the good News I bring you, to ſave our Lives, I and my Children; and to hinder any injury from being done to their Perſons or Goods.

Tariff having caus'd what this Woman had newly ſaid, to be explain'd by a *Chriſtian* Interpreter he had with him, was overjoy'd to hear theſe things. He ſtrips himſelf immediately, in the preſence of Count *Julian*, and of all his People, and having caus'd the place the Woman inſtanc'd to be view'd, they found there the Mole ſhe had mention'd, and the Right Hand longer than the Left, tho not quite ſo long as ſhe had ſaid.

This News being ſpread about the Army, occaſion'd an univerſal joy, and all the Officers would needs ſhare in that their General had, to hear, by infallible proofs, that he it was that was to have the Honour of ſo noble a Conqueſt. And indeed he was reſolv'd to give Battel, and therein to vanquiſh or dye. And that all the Souldiers might have the ſame Reſolution, he would needs deprive 'em of all hopes of Retreat.

For

For that purpoſe, as he wanted no induſtry, he ſecretly caus'd Fire to be ſet to all the Ships that had brought his Troops, and reſerv'd nothing but a ſmall Veſſel, nay, and would needs have that too put out to Sea, for the ſending by it to *Muca*, the good or ill News of the Battel.

Tariff having given this Order, and by a Speech, ſhort indeed, but pithy, animated his Souldiers to the Conflict: It was very bloody and obſtinate on both ſides, but at length the *Chriſtians* were put to flight.

Aſtolpho, wanting neither Heart nor Conduct, perform'd in this occaſion, not only the Duty of a General, but alſo that of a Souldier; he Rally'd the Runaways the beſt he could, return'd ſeveral times to the Charge, and would never yield himſelf up, whatever entreaties he had made him, chuſing rather to dye with his Sword in Hand, as all thoſe are wont to do that are jealous of their Honour, and are reſolved to leave no room ever to be * reproach'd that they have done any thing contrary to the Fidelity they owe their King.

* *Almubatida*, to blame wrongfully, or without reaſon.

In

In this action Count *Julian* was dangerouſly wounded in the Arm with a Partizan, and *Tariff* ſlightly in the Left Leg; which very much afflicted the *Moors* and *Julianiſts*.

The News of this great Defeat being come to *Rodrigo*, he was extremely griev'd, particularly when he knew his General *Aſtolpho* to be dead, and that he had been defeated by ſuch a ſmall handful of men.

Tariff and Count *Julian* retired forthwith with their Troops to their former Camp on *Tariff*, from whence they ſent in all haſte to *Muca*, by the Bark he had reſerv'd on purpoſe for this intent, the News of this firſt Victory, earneſtly deſiring him to Ship, with all expedition, the two Bodies of Army that had been left in *Africa*, for their refreſhment; which *Muca* fail'd not to do, fearing they might need them.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Great Preparations for War made by Rodrigo, *in all the parts of his Dominions.*

Rodrigo being dejected, as I have newly ſaid, at this firſt loſs, knew not what courſe to take to hinder the progreſs of the Enemies, and with whatever hopes thoſe of his Council and Court would needs flatter him, he was not capable of receiving any Conſolation, ſo full had his Heart been of anxiety for ſome time, and pre-poſſeſs'd with the ill Opinion he had of the ſucceſs of this War. He was not wanting however to uſe all poſſible Diligence, and omitted nothing of what he thought could help to free him out of ſo great a danger, for he was but too ſenſible, that he it was, particularly, that ſo horrible a Tempeſt threatned.

Wherefore he caus'd the Troops he had levy'd in all the Provinces of his Kingdom to advance from all parts, and

and gave them a general Rendezvouze at *Cordova*, where of late he kept his Court; that ſo he might ſend them from thence to ſuch places as ſhould need them, and be the readier to take ſuch courſes as his occaſions ſhould require.

His Orders were ſo well Executed, that in a little time his Army was found to be fourſcore thouſand Foot, and twenty thouſand Horſe; all of 'em People huddled indeed together, and moſt of 'em without Arms and Experience. He gave them for their General the Arch-biſhop *D. Oppas*, his very near Relation; whom he ſent before with thirty thouſand Foot, and ſix thouſand Horſe, to try Fortune once again againſt *Tariff*, and endeavour to take the Count *D. Julian*, imagining, that as he had the Secret and Conduct of this Enterprize, it was, doubtleſs, the moſt compendious way to put an end to the War.

In the mean while freſh reinforcements came every minute to *Tariff*, *Muca* caus'd the two Armies that were left behind in *Africa*, to file daily into *Spain*, as well that which *Hiza* had brought from *Arabia*, as that which Prince

Prince *Mahomet Gilhair* had brought from *Tunis*: But as they came by little and little, and ſeparately, it could not otherwiſe be but that there muſt be ſome Diſorder. *Tariff*, to prevent the being ſurpriz'd in the hurry of Landing, and to draw his Troops up in Battel array, accordingly as they deſcended from their Ships, reſolv'd to take more ground, and a little farther in the Country to chooſe a place ſufficiently ſpacious for the Encampment of his whole Army, and in ſecurity wait the coming of *D. Rodrigo*: Wherefore he advanc'd as far as the River which the *Arabs* call * *Guidalete*, at the ſame time that the Archbiſhop *D. Oppas* came thither, and ſent to propoſe to him a Truce for eight days, to give the two Armies time to recover themſelves after the fatigues of the March. The Archbiſhop, who doubtleſs was not inform'd of the ſtate of the Enemies Army, imagin'd this Truce would turn to his advantage, by giving his own time to encreaſe. But in the mean while, all thoſe Troops that *Tariff* had caus'd to file off, according as they landed, being come, they made up Sixty Thouſand Foot, and Ten Thouſand Horſe, at the review

* 'Tis the River called *Guidaleſte*.

review he made of them after the Truce was expir'd. *Oppas* perceiving the fault he had committed, and fearing that the King would reproach him with having given the Enemies time to join all their Forces, and fortify their Camp, he reſolv'd to give them Battel without any farther delay. The reinforcement he had receiv'd, join'd with what he had before, made not up above Forty Thouſand Men: Yet was he not wanting with theſe to puſh the Moors ſo vigorouſly, that *Tariff* was conſtrain'd to retire, after having loſt Three Thouſand Foot, and about Five Hundred Horſe. Whereas the *Chriſtians* loſt no more in this action, than Two Thouſand Foot and Two Hundred Horſe. The Night having parted them, *Oppas* alſo retreated into his own Camp, to let his Souldiers take Breath, before he renew'd the Conflict. The number of the Wounded being very great on both ſides, *Oppas* ſent to propoſe a Truce to *Tariff*, for three days, which was forthwith concluded on between the two Generals. Things being in this eſtate, the following Night, a Traytor (for ſo he may well be call'd, ſince he ſold his own Countrey) ſtole out of the *Chriſti-*

ans

ans Camp, into that of the *Arabs*. This Man being the Companion of *Oppas*, and call'd *Siſebert*, went to tell *Tariff*, that the King *D. Rodrigo*'s General, had only demanded this Truce, that he might ſurprize him that Night, and put him by that means the more eaſily to rout. *Tariff* affording Credence to this notice, upon the account of the eminent Quality of the perſon that brought it, (tho it was an impoſture, as was afterwards verify'd) thought it became him to prevent his Enemy, and without waiting till he had put himſelf in a poſture to execute his evil intentions, he made his Souldiers ſtand immediately to their Arms, and caus'd them to march directly to the *Chriſtians* Camp, where they fell on with ſo much impetuoſity, that they forc'd it, put the whole Army to rout, took General *Oppas*, with the Principal Officers, Priſoners, and got an ineſtimable Booty, and an infinity of Slaves.

After this Victory, *Tariff* made great preſents to *Siſebert*, and retreated near to the *Guadalette*, into the Quarters he had before, and which he had found very convenient for the Subſiſtance of his Army.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

Muca *paſſes into* Spain, *and joins with* Tariff. Rodrigo *puts himſelf at the head of his Army, gives them Battel, and loſes it.*

Muca hearing daily of *Tariffs* great Victories, began no longer to doubt of the Conqueſt of *Spain*, whether he inceſſantly ſent reinforcements of Souldiers, and Amunitions, and Provifions.

But not being with this contented he reſolv'd to paſs the Sea in perſon, at the head of a fourth Army, ſo to ſhare in the honour of ſo fine a Conqueſt. Wherefore he left to a Brother of his call'd *Iſhmael*, the Government of *Africa*, in his abſence; and having with all poſſible diligence, got together twenty thouſand Foot, and ſix thouſand Horſe, brave Men, and well appointed; he went

went to join *Tariff*, who was very joyful at the thing.

When it came to be known that the Vice-roy had himſelf paſs'd the Streights, there paſs'd ſo great a number of *Moors*, being invited by the hopes of pillage, that in the review they made of all their Troops, they were found to be a hundred and fourſcore thouſand Foot, and forty thouſand Horſe, beſides an infinite number of uſeleſs people that are wont to accompany Armies.

Rodrigo, who then exerted all the Duties of a great King, ſeeing the number of the *Moors* daily to augment, thought it in no wiſe convenient to give them time to fortifie themſelves more: And having aſſembled his Council, to ſee what Reſolution it became him to take in ſo great an exigency; they unanimouſly agreed, That he could do nothing better than go himſelf in the head of his Army, give them Battel, rather ſooner than later; and that all the Nobility, Gentry, and People of Service in *Spain* would not fail to attend him.

This Reſolution being taken, the King having nominated for Generaliſſimo of all his Troops, his Favourite

Almerique, a man very brave and reſolute; a General review was held near *Cordoua*, in a Plain the *Arabs* ſhortly after nam'd *Fahe Alguidah* *, where was found twenty three thouſand Horſe, and a hundred and thirty thouſand Foot. This Prince having caus'd the General Officers to come thither, and the moſt conſiderable of the Captains, gave them to underſtand the danger their Country was in, that not only their Honour and their Eſtates, but their Life and Liberty depended on the good or ill ſucceſs of the Battel he was going to fight; that after this Action there was no more ſuccours to be expected from their Country, that was exhauſted by the late Defeats; that they had no longer any hopes but in their own Valour; that they had only to conſider whether they ſhould not rather chuſe to dye generouſly, in fighting for their Country, than to fall themſelves, their Families and Children, into a perpetual Slavery *, and be a Prey to foreign Nations, and ſo different from them in Manners and Religion, that he ſaid not this to them, to expoſe them alone to the peril, with a deſign to ſhelter himſelf from it; that he ſhould be the firſt

* It is now call'd the plain of Truth.

* *Dimiin*, ſlaves of ones Enemies.

to

to ſhew them the way and example; and that he did not believe there to be any man that made a difficulty of going with his King, when they ſhould ſee him reſolv'd to dye with them, and for them.

The Souldiers being encourag'd by this diſcourſe, and reſolv'd to dye for their King and Country, having had order to march againſt the Enemies, there happen'd a remarkable thing, and and of an ill augure, which was that *D. Ramiro, Alfier Major* of King *Rodrigo*; being mounted on Horſeback, his Horſe gave him ſo terrible a fall, that he dy'd of it, and the Launce broke in two, to which the Royal Standard * was faſten'd. * *Halam.*

Thoſe who ſaw ſo ſudden a * Death, were a little terrify'd; but *Rodrigo* having given the Colours * to another, continued his march to the River *Gardalete*, where he encamp'd in ſight of *Tariff*, in a Plain very proper for the ranging all his Troops in Battalia. * *Atiar,* Prodigy. * *Badr.* Cornet.

The day following, the King ſent one of the braveſt men of his Army, call'd *Thodomir*, with five hundred Horſe, and two hundred Foot, all choice men, and well arm'd, to view

the Enemies. *Tariff* fail'd not to detach out at the ſame time, five hundred *Moors*, and three hundred *Julianiſts*, having in the head of them *Abraham Abenabis*, who began ſo bloody, and ſo obſtinate a Combat, that it laſted from Three a Clock in the Afternoon, till Night *, which conſtrained them to part, leaving it undecided which had the advantage; the dead and wounded being much the ſame on both ſides.

* *Four*, from dinner till the Evening.

The King, whoſe heart was puſt up with the ſucceſs of this Skirmiſh, having held a Council in the Evening, and propos'd to the principal Officers of his Army, to give Battel on the morrow, it was reſolv'd on, and a Herald ſent to ſignify it to *Tariff*, who accepted it.

In the midſt of *October*, in the year 714.

It was on the third *Wedneſday* of the month of *Maharran*, in the year 94 of the *Hegira*, that this Battel was fought, which began at break of day, and coſt both Parties a great deal of Blood: For the *Chriſtians* in this action loſt their General *Almerique*, with about three thouſand Foot, and eight hundred Horſe, and the *Moors* a thouſand Foot, and three hundred Horſe.

Rodrigo

Rodrigo was extreamly afflicted for the Death of *Almerique*; for he had that day perform'd Heroick actions, and shown he was not only a good Souldier, but a great Captain. And indeed, he it was alone, that had put the Camp of the *Moors* to disorder; among whom he broke in with so much bravery, that he was kill'd upon the spot; and after his death, the *Christian* Army wanted little of being totally defeated. Cabra, Grief.

And indeed, *Rodrigo* found it convenient to go and encamp six Leagues from thence, the more safely to deliberate on what he had to do. Whereupon he made his Retreat in the best order imaginable; by these means abandoning the Field of Battel to *Tariff*, who on his side, caus'd all the dead, both *Moors* and *Christians*, to be buried, for fear the Corruption of their Bodies might occasion some Distempers in his Camp. But as soon as he heard *Rodrigo* was retired, taking his Retreat for a flight, he march'd after him with all Expedition, and overtook him on the *Friday* following; when the Conflict * being renew'd, it lasted from Noon till Night, which parted them, without

* Mathama, Battel.

either parties having the occaſion to boaſt of the advantage. What moſt afflicted General *Tariff*, was, that Prince *Mahomet Gilhair*, the King of *Thunis* Son, and Count *Julian*, were both dangerouſly wounded in this action, and the later particularly of three great wounds. On the other ſide, *Rodrigo* being paul'd by the oppoſition of the Enemies, found that all he had been thitherto able to do, was but a ſmall matter, and deſponding of his being capable of doing any thing more hereafter, he knew not what to determine upon; and all the courſes propos'd to him, ſeeming to him equally bad and dangerous, he choſe rather to leave the Deciſion of Fortune to the day following, than to wait it any longer, having taken a ſtedfaſt reſolution to Conquer then or Dye.

Whereupon having marſhall'd all his Forces in the beſt order he could, he led them to the Enemies with great vigour, and was by them receiv'd with ſo much bravery and firmneſs, that there dy'd that day fifteen hundred Foot, and two hundred and fifty Horſe, of the *Chriſtians*, and fifteen hundred *Moors*, in all, as well Horſe as Foot. As for the

the wounded, on both ſides, the number of them ſcatter'd up and down, was ſo great, that they were not reckon'd *. The Battel having been deferr'd till the *Wedneſday* following, by the conſent of both parties, it began again at break of day, but not with the ſame obſtinacy. For in ſhort, *Rodrigo* ſeeing his Men ſtagger, threw himſelf into the midſt of the fray, to re-inſpire them with Courage, and did all he could to rally them; but the defeat being abſolute, and without remedy *, he forbid the few people he had about him, to follow him; and he left his Camp, without its being known what became of him.

* *Mudmia*, Bloody.

* *Diz*. Hopes.

All the *Chriſtians* being thus, or dead, or priſoners, or put to flight; all the Riches of their Camp, wherein there was abundance, became the booty of the Conquerours. But *Tariff*, without ſuffering his Souldiers to trifle away their time in plunder, and without allowing them one days reſt, march'd directly to *Cordoua*, which he took without its coſting him one man; and encamp'd all his Troops in the neighbourhood of the Town, in ſuch manner as he judg'd moſt fitting to refreſh

them, after so many fatigues; and to give the wounded time to be cur'd of their wounds.

CHAP. X.

General Tariff, *causes search to be made through all the Countrey for* D. Rodrigo, *and promises great rewards to whom ever shall deliver him dead or alive into his hands.*

Taurib, Exploits.

TAriff reckon'd for nothing, all these Battels he had won; since *Rodrigo* had escap'd him; and did not think *Spain* was ever conquer'd, unless he had him in his hands, For which reason, he had Proclamation made throughout his Army, That whosoever, either *Moor* or *Christian*, should deliver him up alive, or dead; he would not only grant * him great Franchizes and Exemptions, but wherewithal to live at his ease the rest of his days. The hopes of such great gains,

* *Inhan*, Promise.

gains, ſet ſeveral *Chriſtians*, *Moors*, and *Renegadoes*, upon the hunt, throughout all *Andalouſia*, to enquire after the King.

At laſt, ſome of them queſting in the Mountains and Lands thereabouts, at a diſtance ſaw a Shepherd in a very rich garb, being the ſame that unhappy Prince was wont to wear. With great joy did they run after him to catch him, and brought him immediately to the General, who having caus'd Count *Julian* to come to view him, he was found to be a very ſimple and ignorant Swain, from whom they could hardly get a word, and much leſs information of what they were in queſt. He told them he knew nothing elſe of what they demanded, but that as he was keeping his flock upon the Mountain where they had taken him, he had ſeen coming towards him, upon a Horſe very much tir'd, and that ſeem'd out of Breath, a man, in the Cloaths he at preſent wore, who, with a furious voice, and frightful countenance, had bid him pull off forthwith a Coat lin'd with Sheep-skin he had then on; that accordingly having ſtript himſelf immediately, he had caus'd him

him to take thoſe fine Cloaths in lieu of his own; and that having afterwards ask'd him if he had any thing to eat in his Scrip, he had given him a little Bread he had left. After which, the Unknown having taken his Crook, commanded him to come ſhew him the way; which he did, putting him in a little path that went upwards, which he ſaw him mount, till he loſt ſight of him.

Tariff was not ſatisfy'd with this News, for after having diſcours'd the People of the Country of the place where the Shepherd had ſeen *Rodrigo*, he underſtood he was gone towards *Caſtile*; inſomuch that he loſt hope of finding him, and bent his thoughts wholly upon taking all the advantage he might derive from his Victory.

Queen *Zahra Beneliaza* was at *Cordova*, at the taking of that Town; and tho ſhe had time enough, before the Defeat of her Husband, to make her eſcape into *Caſtile*, ſhe had not done ſo either that ſhe had been ſurpriz'd by *Tariff*'s Diligence, or for want of Reſolution, and improving her time; or rather, in ſhort, through the ill luck thoſe labour under, whom Fortune pro-

proſecutes, who are wont to want Council as well as all things.

Tariff left her in her Palace, without ſuffering any one to enter therein, to commit the leaſt Diſorder; he only made ſure of her Perſon as well as the Palace: And as this great City could not be kept without a great number of Troops, he thought fitting to leave there Prince *Mahomet Gilhair*, as well for the containing 'em in their Duty, as for the recovering his perfect health, for he was not yet well cur'd of his Wounds, nor recover'd from the fatigues of this War. He plac'd about this Prince the *Moor*, *Abulcacim Hadilbar*, to aſſiſt him with his Council in Military Expeditions, in caſe ſuch occaſions ſhould be offer'd; and after having given his Orders, he divided his Troops into two equal Armies, one of which he left to the Vice-roy *Muca*, to go into the *Weſtern* part of *Andalouſia*, and took the other to go into the more *Southern*, call'd *Grenada*; ſo to leave nothing behind them, when they had a mind to enter into the Province of *Caſtile*, which is ſeparated from *Andalouſia* on the *Eaſtern* ſide by a great Deſart, compos'd of Mountains and Lands,

Lands, which the *Spaniards* call *Sierra Morena*. This Reſolution being taken, thoſe two Generals directed their March each his own way, and *Mahomet Gilhair* ſtaid with Queen *Zahra*.

CHAP. XI.

The Amours of Mahomet Gilhair *with the Queen, who induces him to turn* Chriſtian, *and then Marries him.*

BEfore they departed from *Cordoua*, *Tariff* fail'd not to do what is commonly done by Conquerours; who change the manner of the Government of the Cities they take, and there Eſtabliſh ſuch Laws as they pleaſe. He ſeiz'd on the great Church, and of ſome others which he turn'd into *Moſchs*; leaving ſome to the *Chriſtians*, for the exerciſe of their Religion. And after having caus'd great Fortifications to be made around that Town, which he conſider'd as the Metropolis of *Spain*; he

he particularly encharg'd Prince *Gilhair* to have great reſpect for Queen *Zahra Beneliaca*, and ſo to order matters, that ſhe might be as little as poſſible ſenſible of her Captivity; repreſenting to him, that being by Nation an *Arabian*, and a near Relation of *Almanzor*, his Maſter; ſo nigh that *Mahomet Abnehedim*, her Father, had ſhar'd *Africa* with him; they ought all to treat her as their real Queen, to endeavour to make her again eſpouſe the Manners and Religion of her Foreſathers; which there was a likelihood ſhe would not find it a difficult matter to reſolve on, ſeeing ſhe muſt needs be inclin'd thereto, by the ſentiments of Nature. The Unfortunate *Gilhair* did but too faithfully acquit himſelf of this Commiſſion; for he ſaw her ſo often, and render'd her ſo many ſervices, that as ſhe was Young and Beautiful, and he Gallant and Witty, he became deſperately in Love with her. Nothing now but Feaſts and Merriments at *Cordoua*, he daily invented ſomething new to divert and pleaſe her, and his thoughts were wholly taken up in making her a thouſand preſents, wherein there was ever as much gallantry as magnificence:

As

As he had all the conveniency of ſeeing her he could deſire, the reſpect he bare her, had long hinder'd him from declaring his paſſion to her. But this at length being become the ſtrongeſt, he could not forbear giving her to underſtand, in a thouſand converſations he had with her, that if ſhe would again eſpouſe the Religion in which ſhe had been brought up, he would bring her back into her own Countrey, with the Crown of *Thunis*, which he would put upon her Head, inſtead of that of *Caſtile*, which ſhe had loſt. Every time he diſcours'd her upon this point, ſhe pretended ſhe did not underſtand him; but he imagin'd it to be an uneaſineſs of hers, in ſuffering a Declaration of Love, that hinder'd her from anſwering; and that he had to vanquiſh rather her modeſty than her averſion. At length, they two only being together one day, and he thinking her diſpos'd to be more favourable to him, he threw himſelf at her feet, and conjur'd her not to leave him any longer in the uncertainty of his good or evil fortune; and at laſt, reſolve upon pronouncing the word that was to give him his death, or to render him happy all his life long.

The

The Queen not hating him, would not ſuffer him any longer to flatter himſelf with vain hopes: Wherefore ſhe declar'd to him, ſhe was reſolv'd to live and dye in the Faith * ſhe had embrac'd; but that if the deſire he expreſs'd to her of marrying her, was as ſtrong as he would fain perſwade her, and if he imagin'd it ſo eaſie a matter to change Religion, he would find no difficulty in doing for her, what he propos'd to her, to do for him; that inſtead of preſſing her to turn *Mahometan*, he needed only to turn *Chriſtian*; and that upon this condition, ſhe would conſent to a match, wherein there was nothing unworthy of her Royal extraction *. After this anſwer, the Prince went his ways home very penſive, but he was not capable to reſiſt his paſſion long. They were neither of them in a place to ſolemnize this Marriage, which was quickly agreed on; and the juncture of times was not propitious: For which reaſon, the Princeſs caus'd one of her * Religious to come, without the leaſt notice being taken out, and marry her in private with the Prince, after he had baptiz'd him. The Ceremonies were perform'd with all poſſible ſecreſie *, and

* *Hycman*, Faith.

* *Fach Alcatanæ*, Blood Royal.

* *Calch*, Religious.

Muhſi, *Gilhair* convert.

Gilhair and *Zahra* enjoy'd their Amours peaceably for ſome time, carefully concealing the Images they ador'd in private. But they could not keep their intelligence ſo ſecret, but that it was diſcover'd by one of the Queen's Ladies, in whom ſhe confided: She was born in *Arabia*, of the number of thoſe that had been thrown upon the Coaſts of *Spain*, with the Queen, and who with her were converted. This Woman, call'd *Sigebeſte*, having been perſwaded * by ſome *Moors*, had betaken herſelf again to her ancient Religion; inſomuch, that having ſeen *Mahomet* make profeſſion of Chriſtianity with the Queen, in her Palace, ſhe reſolv'd, tho with trouble, to inform *Abulcacim Adilbard* how matters went, whom *Tariff* had left with that Prince, in all things to aſſiſt him, with his Council. *Aldilbar* was extreamly afflicted at the tydings, and would by no means believe the leaſt on't for a long time; imagining this Woman might perchance, have a grudge to the Prince, for ſome particular reaſon *. But making reflexion upon the greatneſs of the paſſion he had long obſerv'd this Prince have for the Queen, he

* *Mubir*, perſwaſion.

* *Varia*, falſe teſtimony.

he began to believe him capable of all.

He had then the curioſity, to ſathom the thing, without making ſemblance of ought; and knew at length ſo well to obſerve his actions, that without the Queens ſuſpecting it, he diſcover'd all that had paſs'd between them. When he was throughly aſſur'd, he went to the Army, where he acquainted *Tariff* with the particulars of this Intrigue.

Tariff was ſurpriz'd and perplex'd at the ſame time, for he conſider'd that *Mahomet Gilhair* being no Vaſſal of *Almanzor*, but the Son of a Prince as Potent as himſelf, and his Ally, who came to aſſiſt him voluntarily with his Forces in this War *; however, juſt the reſentment that ought to be had againſt him for ſo great a raſhneſs, it might be attributed to ſome jealouſie, or to ſome particular ill will, which might make him incurr the Disfavour of his Maſter. Wherefore he contented himſelf with ſending *Adilbar* back to *Cordoua*, with a reinforcement of Troops, to confine the Queen, Prince *Mahomet*, and all thoſe he ſhould believe to have had a hand in his evil deſigns *; and gave him

* *Riſtab*, Conqueſt.

* *Almubhiin*, Accomplices.

him order to take an exact Information of all, and to ſend it him with all diligence.

As ſoon as *Adilbar* was return'd, he carefully executed the orders he had brought; after having ſeiz'd on the Perſon of the Queen of *Spain*, of the Prince of *Thunis*, and of the Religious that had Baptiz'd him; he ſent what he had diſcover'd to *Tariff*, who immediately gave notice of it to the King of *Thunis*, by a Courier, who carry'd him the Proceſs that *Adilbar* had caus'd to be made againſt his Son, leaving it to him to decree thereupon, according to his good pleaſure.

The Proceedings of this General, were found very Wiſe, and very Prudent; by this means, he ſcreen'd himſelf from all ſuſpicion*, envy and jealouſie, and diſcharg'd himſelf from the odium he might have incurr'd by the Death of this Young Prince: For, aſſoon as his Father was inform'd of his Impiety, he wrote to his men to put him to Death, without waiting for further orders. The Courier having brought his diſpatches to *Tariff*, while that he was in the Province of *Grenada*, the General being not permitted to quit the

*Hatz, ſuſpicion.

the War he had in thoſe Parts; ſent an abſolute Power to *Adilbar*, with all his Forces, to ſee this Execution done; and to make an Exemplary puniſhment of all thoſe that were found accomplices of ſo black a buſineſs.

Adilbar having receiv'd *Tariff's* Commiſſion *, and that of the King of *Thunis*, caus'd the Proceſs to be review'd againſt *Zahra* and *Mahomet*, and had them fetcht out of Priſon, one *Friday* morning, to conduct them before the Principal Church of *Cordova*, where there is a good handſome Place. There he exhorted * them to renounce the Law of the *Chriſtians*, if they were willing to ſave their Lives. But they would in no wiſe conſent thereto; and declar'd that they rather choſe to ſuffer the Death with which they were threatned, and which they were ready to receive, than renounce the Faith they had Embrac'd. *Adilbar*, both ſurpriz'd and provok'd at this obſtinacy, caus'd them all three to be beheaded; and their Bodies were a long time abandon'd in the place, in the midſt of the dirt; from whence they were taken by the *Chriſtians*, who bury'd them the beſt to their ability, tho not accord-

* *Amr*, thing.

* *Mauhia*, Exhortation.

ing to the grandeur of their high Birth.

CHAP. XII.

Tariff *makes himſelf maſter of the Province of* Grenada, *and of the Snowy Mountains, call'd by the* Spaniards *of the* Sun, *and of the* Air.

ALL things being peaceable at *Cordoua*, and nothing more being to be fear'd on that ſide, *Tariff* purſues his Conqueſts towards the South, and march'd with all his Army, towards the Province of *Grenada*; he met with no * Reſiſtance in all the Places where he paſs'd; on the contrary, all the Inhabitants went to meet him, and brought Victuals, and all ſorts of Refreſhments to his Forces; conjuring his Souldiers, not to injure * People that put themſelves under his Obedience and Protection. *Tariff* gave the neceſſary orders for the containing them in ſubjection, but tho he was fear'd, and by conſequence obey'd;

* *Marmohauda*, without reſiſtance.

* *Facat*, inſolences.

obey'd; for that he was very ſevere, and did not willingly ſuffer Omiſſions in the Executing his Commands; his Souldiers ſeeing themſelves in a Land of Conqueſt, did not however refrain from committing ſome Inſolencies.

At laſt, at a diſtance he perceiv'd a City built upon a Hill, from whence one had the Proſpect of the moſt pleaſant and moſt fertile Plain imaginable, and that had the air of the Terreſtrial Paradice. For it was all about ſurrounded with little Mounts, full of Trees and Springs, and cut by a large and deep River, that paſs'd in the midſt of a great extent of Meadows, all ſow'd with Flowers. Thoſe he ſent to view it, having brought him word that it had good Walls and good Towers, he Encamp'd in the midſt of that Plain, that his Forces might take Breath, and that he might at his leiſure ſee where it was to be attack'd with moſt ſucceſs. But no ſooner had he begun the Approaches in the forms, than that the Inhabitants, ſeeing the few men they had to oppoſe againſt ſo great a ſtrength, and having no hopes of ſuccours, being inform'd of the Defeat of their King, after having long conferr'd together

about the means of ſecuring their freedom, they reſolv'd upon ſending to offer *Tariff* to ſurrender up the Town, provided he ſuffer'd them and their Families to enjoy in Peace all their Goods and Eſtates, and remain in their Country without Oppreſſion * in their Perſons, or Violence done them in their Religion.

* *Tapdit*, ill treatment.

Tariff having held a Council, accepted their Offers; and promis'd to cauſe the Conditions carefully to be obſerv'd, upon which they were willing to put their Town into his hands. The Articles of the Capitulation were drawn up by them, and ſigned by this General, who ſwore in the Name of *Almanzor* punctually to obſerve them: And thus, without its coſting him ſo much as one man, he entred *Grenada* with part of his Army; and plac'd as Governour, one of his Captains, call'd *Betis Abenabur* *, born in *Arabia Fœlix*. He only croſs'd this Town, that ſo he might at the ſame time reduce the Mountains which cover it on the South; theſe the *Chriſtians* call the Mountains of the *Sun* and of the *Air* †, by reaſon they are in the Middle Region: For he had been told that the Peaſants being

* *Betis Abenabur*, firſt Governour of *Grenada*.

† This is what the *Spaniards* call *Surra ne vada*, The Snowy Mountain, and the *Arabs* from the ancient *Spaniſh* word corrupted, *Solayr*.

ing brave reſolute fellows, were reſolv'd to defend them; relying upon the little knowledge the *Moors* had of their Country, wherein it was impoſſible to penetrate very far with an Army.

Tariff, who hitherto had not found any obſtacle in his Conqueſts, no not even in the City of *Grenada*, where he expected to have met with ſome reſiſtance, confided in his wonted ſucceſs, and the Reſolution of his Souldiers; and imagin'd that this little corner of Earth being only defended by Bumpkins, would not hold out longer than the other Places where he had paſs'd.

But when he was at a great *Ravine*, making a Torrent that falls into a River, which the *Chriſtians* call *Auzeva*, being oblig'd to ſtop there, about midnight the Peaſants came and attack'd his Camp with ſo much fury, that he was forced to abandon it, after having there loſt four thouſand Foot, and ſome Horſe. On the morrow, being enrag'd to have been thus beaten by Bumpkins, he reſolved to be Reveng'd on 'em, and to attack 'em, as he did, in the ſame place. But the *Chriſtians* defended

It is not known what this *Ravine* is, or *Par de Toc*, unleſs it be the bridge of *Tabalate*. The *Moors* have ſince call'd this River *Orgiba*.

themſelves with as much vigour as the day before, and without loſing hardly one of their ſide, they kill'd fifteen hundred more of his Men. What enrag'd him moſt, was the difficulty of the Country, where the Cavalry, wherein conſiſted his greateſt ſtrength, could not penetrate; whereas theſe Peaſants, from the advantageous Poſts they poſſeſs'd, made a great ſlaughter of his Men, without his being able to come at them: Whereupon he was upon the point of deſiſting from his Enterprize, where he only loſt time and Souldiers, and to carry his Arms elſewhere, when that one of thoſe Mountainers call'd *Fandino*, to ſecure a little Eſtate he had in that Canton, came and ſhew'd him a place, by which he might come and enter with the Horſe into the heart of the Country, and eaſily ſubdue it: The General was over-joy'd, and having ask'd this Peaſant a thouſand Queſtions *, to which he made pertinent anſwers; by his advice he drew off his Troops four miles from the place where they lay, and having given order to his Fleet to draw near that Coaſt, he detach'd one of his moſt Valiant Captains, call'd *Abraham Abuxarra*,

* *Interrogat.* Examination.

huxarra, with ten thouſand Foot, and four hundred Horſe, to a place call'd *Xat*, by the *Arabs*, where he Shipp'd him with all his Men, and *Fandino*, whom he ſent along to ſerve him for his Guide; *Abrahim* was not long before he arriv'd at a Town upon the *Eaſtern* Coaſt of *Spain* by the *Chriſtians*, call'd * *Adrada*, and in good order entred the heart of the Country, pillaging, and laying all waſte.

* It is at preſent *Adra*.

The *Chriſtians* had no Cavalry, and expected no ſuccours, ſeeing themſelves ſhut up on all ſides, *Abuxarra* attacking them behind, while *Tariff* beat them before, yet made not any movement, by which we could perceive the Extremity they were reduc'd to: But after being aſſembled to ſee what courſe was beſt for them to take, they reſolv'd to ſend to demand a Truce * for fifteen days of *Tariff*, that ſo they might have time to concert with him the Conditions on which they were willing to ſurrender.

* *Colch*, Truce.

Tariff having immediately accepted the offers they made him, and having given a ſafe Conduct * for ſuch as they were minded to ſend as Deputies to him; they choſe the Biſhop of that Country,

* *Anr*, Thing.

Country, call'd *Otoger*, with ſome other Perſons of Credence, whom they ſent into the Camp with the neceſſary Powers. He was a man of Wit and Learning, and very Expert and knowing in affairs. He was very kindly receiv'd by *Tariff*, who immediately ſtruck up with him in the following Conditions: That the *Chriſtians* ſhould remain in that Country if ſo minded, and ſhould not be moleſted either in their Perſons, or Eſtates, or their Conſciences: That they ſhould not pay any other Impoſts, than the Tribute they were wont to pay to *Chriſtian* Kings: That if any among them were not willing to ſtay there, they ſhould be ſuffer'd to ſell their whole Eſtate, and and go into whatever Country, inhabited by *Chriſtians*, they ſhould be ſafe like.

This Capitulation being ſign'd by *Tariff*, in the name of the Great *Almanzor* his Maſter, in whoſe name he promis'd to obſerve it very exactly; *Abraham Abuxarra* * was left there as Governour: And as he was the firſt that entred the Country, and had been its firſt Governour, this little Province was from this time call'd by his name.

*It is now ſtill call'd *Las Alpuxarras.*

This

This General having now totally reduc'd thoſe parts that fell to his lot, re-aſſembled all his Forces to return to *Cordoua*, by the ſame way he came, with a Deſign to rejoin *Muca*, after that to enter both together, and without any longer delay, into the Province of *Caſtile*.

CHAP. XIII.

The Conqueſts of Muca, *and his return to* Cordoua.

AT the ſame time that General *Tariff* began his march, to lead his Army towards the *Eaſt* and *South*, into the Province of *Grenada*, as we have ſaid, the Vice-roy *Muca* went to lead his towards the *Weſt*, into the Province which the Natives of the Country call *Andalouſia*, from the name of certain People, that formerly inhabited it, call'd *Vandals*. He march'd at firſt againſt *Carmona*, a ſmall Town indeed, but well fortify'd; where ſeveral *Chriſtians* had taken refuge, from all

all the Burroughs, and all the Villages of that Country, which they had forſaken at *Muca*'s Approach, and where they had ſtor'd themſelves with all ſorts of Ammunition and Proviſions that ſo they might defend themſelves as long as poſſible they could.

The Vice-roy having block'd it up on all ſides, the Beſieged reſolv'd to make a Sally out of the ſtrongeſt of their Gates, and with the beſt men they had, to ſee if there was any poſſibility of defeating their Enemies before they had better fortified themſelves.

Wherefore on the morrow at break of day, having taken Arms, and encouraged one another to do well, they attack'd the *Moors* Camp with ſo much Bravery, and in ſuch good order, that they kill'd three hundred of them before they could know, and put themſelves in a poſture of Defence, and return'd into the Town, having loſt but five and twenty on their ſide.

This ſucceſs having puſt up their Hearts, they would needs ſee the day following, if Fortune * would be as favourable to them. But having found the *Moors* upon their Guard, they were received

* *Tchadad Zogle*, Good Fortune try'd.

received a little more ſmartly than the day before, and conſtrained to return into the Town faſter than they came thence. The *Moors* purſu'd them ſo cloſely, that the Governour of *Carmona* fearing that by opening the Gates to receive them, the Enemies would enter pell-mell with them, and ſo make themſelves maſters of the Place; he found it more expedient to let the few *Chriſtians* that were without to be loſt, than to loſe the Town in endeavouring to ſave them; and forbid the opening to them the Gate, he fear'd it would be no longer in his power to ſhut.

The *Chriſtians* ſeeing the Reſolution their Governour had taken, all on the ſudden took a very generous one; for having all engag'd rather to dye like Men of Courage, than be made ſlaves, they fac'd about upon thoſe that purſued them, and fighting like Deſperate People, kill'd eight hundred of them, and puſh'd on into the midſt of *Muca*'s Camp, where they were all kill'd upon the ſpot, or taken Priſoners, without ſo much as one of them eſcaping. *Muca* being very much enrag'd at theſe two bad ſucceſſes, aſſembled the Principal Officers to hold a Council

Council of War, wherein it was re-
ſolv'd on the morrow morning to
make a General attacque. The Lad-
ders were ſet up againſt the Walls, and
the *Moors* mounted them with great
Reſolution: On the other ſide, the
Beleaguer'd defended themſelves with
great firmneſs, Killing and Topſy-tur-
vying thoſe that mounted. Among
others, the Governour of the Place
call'd *Galo*, did then perform Heroick
Actions; for he alone, with two men
he had with him, defended a whole
Courtine, from one Tower to another
which he had undertaken to maintain
and with a Croſs-bow, kill'd or
wounded for his own part that day
himſelf alone fourſcore *Moors*. The
Conflict laſted from Noon till Night,
and in it the Vice-roy loſt fifteen hun-
dred men; whereas the Beſieged, as
we were afterwards inform'd, loſt but
three hundred.

The time and men *Muca* loſt be-
fore this Place, made him reſolve, for
the rendring himſelf maſter of it, to
try another way than that of force,
which he had ſped ſo ill in thitherto.
Whereupon he ſent to ſummons the
Beſieged to ſurrender, offering not on-
ly

ly to ſpare their Lives, but to grant them great Priviledges, if they made their Compoſition ſooner than later. This Propoſal caus'd the Beſieged to open their Eyes, and the Principal of them aſſembling to confer with their Governour; they concluded, that tho they ſhould ſtill hold out for a while, their * Proviſions would at length fail them, and their Souldiers would diminiſh; that all that Province was almoſt ſubdu'd, that they could not expect ſuccours from any body, that thus ſooner or later they would be a Prey to the Victorious: For which reaſon, they made anſwer, That they were content to open him the Gates of their City, provided he would ſuffer them to depart thence with their Wives and Children, and all they had of Money, Arms and Baggage, and generally all things whatever that they could carry along with them, whither they pleas'd, with full freedom.

* *Zid.* Ammunitions.

All that they required was granted them, bating the Baggage; upon which they were told, That they might only carry away with them, what they could load upon a hundred Waggons, with which they were contented.

Thus

Thus all the *Chriſtians* departed, and went to another City near the Sea, call'd *His pala* in their Tongue, while that *Muca*, after having plac'd a Governour there, with ſome Souldiers, for its Guard, decamp'd forthwith to march towards a very great and populous City, which the *Spaniards* in their Tongue call *Merida*.

In this Town there was a very brave *Chriſtian* Governour, and as he Signaliz'd himſelf in this Siege, and there perform'd Actions worthy of Praiſe he well deſerves that I ſhould dwell a little longer upon the Relation of his Performances.

This Governour, call'd *Salara*, ſeeing the havock made by the *Moors* Army in the Countries where it paſs'd, caus'd all the *Chriſtians* in the Neighbourhood of *Merida* to retire into that Town with their Wives and Children, and caus'd them to bring along with them all the Victuals there was in the Country; where having left only what could not be remov'd, he himſelf ſent ſome to burn all the Villages thereabouts, and to make a havock throughout all the Country, that ſo when the *Moors* ſhould come thither, they might find

find nothing left. He did not content himſelf with this, he caus'd all the Waters to be poyſon'd, and having employ'd all the Peaſants, he caus'd 'em to work upon the Fortifications of the Town: He repair'd its Walls, its Battlements and Parapets: And having caus'd a Review to be made of what men he had in a condition to fight, he found 'em five thouſand ſtrong, whom he diſtributed into the Towers, and other Places he judg'd convenient. Things were in this poſture when the Vice-roy drew near the Place, and having block'd it up on all ſides, began by ſending to Summons *Salaru* to Surrender, otherwiſe that he would put all that were in it to the Sword.

But the Governour having made him Anſwer, That he might do as he pleas'd; That the Mercy of God was greater than his Forces, and that it afforded him more Confidence than all his Threatnings gave him Fear.

Muca being provok'd at this Refuſal, caus'd all things to be prepar'd for the making the Aſſault. The next day the *Moors* being mounted to the Scalade, were there receiv'd, and vigorouſly repuls'd by the Beleaguer'd, by

means of the great order, with which they ran to the *relief of one another upon occaſion. The Attack laſted the whole day, wherein the Beſiegers loſt ſix hundred Men, and the Beſieged only fifty ſeven. But the *Moors* having renew'd the fight the next morning at break of day, that they might afford the Beſieged no reſpite it was ſo obſtinate and furious, that the Town had like to have been taken at unawares. The *Moors* having already got to the top of the Wall, and being ready to leap into the Town, when that *Salaru*, who went to all the places that had need of his Succours, running thither juſt in the nick, tumbled them down from the top of the Walls, and by this means deliver'd *Merida*, that but for him had been now taken; obliging the Beſiegers to retire with the loſs of eight hundred men, whereas he had loſt but about three hundred.

* *Ygara*, help in diligence.

The Vigour the *Chriſtians* had exerted in theſe two Conflicts, did a little cool that of the Vice-roy, who reſolv'd to quarter all his Army round the place, and ſee if he could not take it by Famine. *Salaru* having perceiv'd his Deſign, made a very exact review of all

all that was in the Town, that he might more duly ſee how long his Victuals could laſt. He found there to be ſeveral uſeleſs Mouths, in Women, Children, and Old Men, that were paſt bearing of Arms, and yet conſum'd the Proviſions, that began already to diminiſh, tho there had been as yet but thirty days Siege, and that they had laid up great ſtores before-hand. He alſo ſaw it to be impoſſible for him to hold out much longer, and not being ſtrong enough to ſtir out of the enclosure of the Town to fight the Enemies, he bethought himſelf of employing Stratagem, to endeavour to make them raiſe the Siege. Wherefore he ſent to *Muca*, That he was miſtaken, if he thought, by Famine, to force him to Surrender: that he had ſtill Bread enough for above ten years; and to make good his words, he caus'd a world of Baskets full of Loaves, to be thrown from off the Walls.

This Compliment had like to have made *Muca* run mad, and he made no anſwer to it but by a General Aſſault, which laſted a whole day, with great vigour on both ſides: for there fell above five hundred *Moors*, without

reckoning Captain *Aliculeyman*, who was very much wounded, which extremely afflicted *Muca*. It coſt the Beſieged little leſs, who alſo loſt in this occaſion four hundred men. But *Muca* having been oblig'd to cauſe the Retreat to be ſounded, by reaſon of the night, the next morning he ſent a Trumpeter to the Governour, to ſignifie to him, That he had made an Oath, and ſworn by the moſt high God, that if the Beleaguer'd delay'd Surrendring any longer, they ſhould after this, all to no purpoſe implore his Mercy.

Salaru having ſtraitways aſſembled the principal men of the Town, gave them in a little time a very exact account of the ſtate of the place; and after having made them apprehend the neceſſity they were in of all things, and the little likelihood he ſaw of being Reliev'd, they all agreed to Surrender, but upon the moſt advantageous Conditions they could get: Inſomuch that they made him anſwer; That they would willingly put the Place into his hands, provided he would ſuffer them, they, their Wives and Children, with their Arms and Baggage, to go to whatever City of the *Chriſtians* they ſhould pleaſe;

pleaſe; that all thoſe that were minded to ſtay, ſhould not receive any ill treatment, nor be conſtrain'd to quit their Religion. *Muca* agreeing to all theſe Articles, and having been induc'd to Sign 'em, and ſwear in the Name of the Caliph his Maſter, never to act to the contrary, conceiv'd ſuch an eſteem of the Bravery and Fidelity of this Governour, and of his ability to take his Precautions, that he took a Scimitar of great value he had at his Girdle, and himſelf put it on his ſide, ſaying, That the Valour with which he had ſav'd his People from ſo great a Danger, merited a thouſand times more Honour than he did him.

Salaru having given him the Keys of the Town, where the Riff-raff only ſtaid, he took all thoſe along with him that were minded to follow him, with whom he went on Shipboard, to waft o're to the neareſt Iſlands of that Coaſt, that he might not ſee the Ruine of his Country, and ſo ſhelter himſelf from the ſervitude* of the *Arabians*, under which he foreſaw that all *Spain* was going to be reduc'd.

* Calls it Servitude.

The Vice-roy of *Africa* was over-joy'd at the taking of this great City,

but could not ſtay there long, for that there was no ſubſiſtance to be got out of the Country, that had been forſaken by the People, who had all taken refuge in the Province, call'd in the *Spaniſh* Tongue *Caſtile*, and had left this Country deſert. For which reaſon, after having put a Garriſon into the Place, he caus'd all his Troops to march towards *Hiſpalis*. They were not gone far, when that his Scouts came to give him notice, that the world of People that had taken refuge there, had occaſion'd ſuch a Contagion, that the mortality was general. This News put a full ſtop to his Career that way; and the fear he was in of cauſing his Army to periſh, made him return to *Cordoua*, to rejoin *Tariff*, who had ſignify'd to him, he was already on his way from *Grenada* thither.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIV.

The Conjunction of the two Generals, and their entrance into Caſtile.

THeſe two Generals, being return'd from their Expedition, after having each on his ſide acquir'd much Honour; did for a long while hold Council what courſe to take, for the finiſhing the abſolute Conqueſt of *Spain*; for which they had receiv'd preciſe orders from *Almanzor*. During that time, the Souldiers being put into good Quarters, recover'd themſelves of the Hardſhips of that War. The Officers repair'd their Equipages, which ſo long a march had ruin'd; and the Commiſſioners not only receiv'd all the new Proviſions that were come to them from *Africa*, but had alſo gather'd up on all ſides, all that was neceſſary for the Invaſion of *Caſtile*, according to the reſolution they had taken.

At laſt, the two Armies that now

made but one Body, being decamp'd in the beſt order imaginable, march'd ſmall days journeys, along a great River, which having its courſe towards the Setting Sun, croſſes that Province; and after having waſh'd the Walls of *Cordoua*, at a great diſtance lower falls into the Ocean. Thus ſtill on their Right leaving this River *, which the *Chriſtians* call *Betis*, and the *Arabs*, *Alquidalquibir*; the firſt Town they found in their Left was *Vbeda*, whoſe Inhabitants brought them their Keys, as not being in a poſture of making a Defence.

* *Dan Curnain*, the greater Sea.

Tariff having on pain of Death, forbidden any entrance into the Town without Expreſs order; or in any wiſe, the injuring of People, that had thrown themſelves into his Arms, did there only leave one Captain *Abencorbas*, with ſome Souldiers, and leiſurely march'd to another Town, not three miles thence, call'd *Balle*. The Citizens ſeeing that if they paus'd at following the Example of *Vbeda*, they ſhould but Exaſperate the *Moors*, and incur their inevitable ruine, without any profit; they ſent immediately to beſeech this General, to hinder any miſ-

miſchief from being done them by his Souldiers; and in conſideration of that, they would not only ſurrender to him, but likewiſe preſent him with all ſorts of Victuals and Refreſhments for his Troops.

Tariff very joyfully accepted their offers, and to manifeſt his Clemency to them, and the Diſcipline he caus'd his Army to obſerve, having forbidden any one ſoever to enter therein without his order, he himſelf, one after the other, nominated all thoſe he was willing ſhould accompany him thither, to the number of five hundred; with whom alighting, he took a turn round the Town, viſited all the Fortifications, and left there a Natural *African*, call'd *Mahomet Abencorba*, with a pretty ſtrong Garriſon, for its Preſervation. He ſtaid no longer there than he had done at *Ubeda*, and purſu'd his way Northwards, acroſs a vaſt pile of Mountains, that ſeparate *Andalouſia* from *Caſtile*, and ſtretch from the *Mediterranean* Sea to the *Ocean*. Thus having travers'd twenty miles, or thereabouts, they are in breadth, he deſcended into the Plains *de la Manche*, which the *Arabs* call the *Dry Fields* *; where having

* *Faye abia*, in *Spaniſh* *Campo ſeco*.

ving gone near ſixty miles without meeting with any body, all the People having quitted, and being retired into the heart of the Country; he at laſt diſcover'd a Town, which ſeem'd very beautiful to him, and much ſtronger than all thoſe he had yet ſeen, and was told that it was *Toledo*, the Metropolis of *Caſtile*, where the *Chriſtian* Kings had in all times made their abode. Along this City paſſes the famous River of *Tage*, which alſo diſembogues into the *Weſtern* Sea. And here it was King *Rodrigo* had caus'd the Enchanted Tower to be open'd, whereof I have made mention in the beginning of this Hiſtory.

Tariff having Encamp'd all his Troops in the Neighbourhood, with intention to Beſiege it, the *Chriſtians* ſent to tell him, That they had no thoughts of holding out; and that, provided he would ſuffer them to enjoy peaceably what they had, and permit all thoſe that were ſo minded, to go where they pleas'd, with their Families, and all their Baggage, they would pay him all ſort of Obedience, and would be as faithful to him, as they had thitherto been to their King.

This

This General having expected to have met with ſome oppoſition in this Place, was overjoy'd it did not oblige him to any ſtop; and ſwore ſolemnly in the Name of the *Caliph Almanzor*, his Maſter, for ever to obſerve the Conditions, on which they would put the Keys of ſo great a Town into his hands. He would needs alſo, for the maintaining it in the ancient Prerogative it had, of being the Capital City of ſo great a Kingdom, leave there, as Governour, one of his principal Officers, call'd *Mahomet Abenbamin*, of the City of *Damas*, with the Quality of Vice-roy, and a Garriſon he judg'd convenient.

It is a thing ſomewhat aſtoniſhing to be remark'd, that in near a hundred and forty miles march, made by theſe two Generals, ſtill skirting the Sea of the *Levant*, and drawing Northwards, they found not one living Soul*, till they came to a Province call'd *Arragon*, in the midſt of which there is a City call'd *Saragoza*, where ſeveral *Chriſtians* had taken refuge, as well as in the Mountains next adjoyning, to ſhelter themſelves from the fury of the *Moors*.

* *Mahalue.* living Soul.

This City would needs ſtand out an Aſ-

Aſſault, that was bloody; after which it Surrendred upon very advantageous terms. Thus they ſtaid there only the time requiſite for the ſettling, as Governour of all that Province, a Captain of great Reputation, born in *Arabia*, call'd *Iſmael Abenhut*; and reſolved to puſh their Arms further, and even beyond the Mountains the *Chriſtians* call the *Pyrenees*, which ſeparate the Kingdom of *Spain* from that of *France*.

They are very rugged and high; and the *Chriſtians* were ſaid to be retired thither, with a reſolution of making a ſtout Defence. Nevertheleſs they advanced there about twenty miles, without meeting with any Reſiſtance; inſomuch that the Generals having made reflexion that their Maſter having only given them order to Conquer *Spain*, and *France* being a great Kingdom, wholly different, and wholly ſeparate, it would be exceeding their Power, to puſh on their Invaſion upon it. And ſeeing their Troops wearied with ſo long a March, and much diminiſh'd by all the Garriſons they had been oblig'd to leave in the Towns they had taken; they reſolv'd to go no further, and

and remitting the Conqueſt of *France* till another time, they thought it more convenient to return into *Caſtile*, to give the neceſſary orders for the conſervation of what they had taken, and the reduction of what they had ſtill left to take.

CHAP. XV.

The March of the two Generals towards Valentia *and* Murtia, *and their Return to* Cordoua.

THE two Generals taking the Field again with their Forces, upon their departure from *Arragon*, bent their march towards the *Eaſt*, and continued it without any ſtay, to a great Plain, in the midſt of which is a great City, enclos'd with good Walls; whence you have a Proſpect of the *Mediterranean* Sea, that is but but four ſmall Leagues diſtant: All the Country adjacent is full of very delightful Gardens, Groves, and a world of Springs, which form the fineſt Landskip imaginable.

Tariff,

Tariff, before he would begin the Siege, thought fitting to ſend to ſummon the Inhabitants to Surrender, as all the other Cities of *Spain* had done; in conſideration of which, he promis'd to ſuffer 'em to live in Peace, according to their Law, and to hinder any injury from benig done them. But the Trumpeter coming near the City-gate, the Centinel that was upon the Wall, without hearkning to what he ſaid aloud, or imparting it to the Governour, let fly a Bullet from a Stone-Bow at him, by which the Trumpeter perceiving himſelf wounded, without ſtaying any longer, came flying to the Camp. *Tariff* being provok'd at the little regard they had for a man that came from him, took this affair, not only for a want of reſpect * to him, but for an infraction of all the Laws of War, and the Right of Nations, and gave order for the Attacking the Town on all ſides.

* *Quilathia*, Diſcourteſie.

The next day the Governour, call'd *Agres*, having been inform'd of what the Centinel had done, was very much ſurpriz'd at this miſunderſtanding, and thought convenient to ſend to make his excuſe to *Tariff*, and propoſe to him at the ſame time a Truce for three days;

days; during which, they wou'd ſee to contrive the means of making their Capitulation.

The Envoy of *Valence* was kindly receiv'd by the General. The Truce was granted, and the Hoſtages having been agreed on, he went out of the Town with full power to treat on the behalf of the Beſieged, and came to *Tariff*'s Camp, with whom he agreed to deliver him the Town, on Condition, that all the *Chriſtians* that were minded to go thence, might have the freedom ſo to do, with their Wives and Children, and all their Goods, to whatever place they ſhould pleaſe to chooſe. As alſo that all thoſe that would ſtay there, might do it without being injur'd in the leaſt. *Tariff* made no difficulty of granting them all they demanded, and of promiſing to obſerve what he granted in the name of *Almanzor* his Maſter. In conſideration of which, he made his entrance into that Town, and there left as Governour one of his Captains, a Native of *Arabia Fælix*, nam'd *Abubaxar Xandalg*, whom he plac'd there with a numerous Garriſon, to curb not only that Town, but the whole

whole Province depending on it.

After having thus ſettled matters at *Valence*, *Tariff* and *Muca*, having bent their march a little more towards the *South*, entred the Province, by the *Spaniards* call'd *Murtia*; where having met with no reſiſtance, they render'd themſelves Maſters of the Capital City, that goes by the ſame name. Finding it forſaken by the Inhabitants, and the Country very good, they reſolv'd upon ſettling there a part of the Souldiers of their Army, for the re-peopling it, and therein to put as Governour, *Abraham Alexandri*, by Nation an *African*. Theſe two Armies being by theſe means reduc'd to a very ſcanty number, and by leaving ſo many upon the way, both for Guarding and Populating all the Towns where they had paſs'd, they return'd to *Cordoua*, to recreate themſelves after the fatigues of this War.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

The Order that Tariff *left in* Spain, *before his Departure thence.*

THE Governour of *Cordova*, *Abulxacim* by name, knowing the coming of the two Generals, went out to meet them four Leagues from that Town, with all the Foot and Horſe in Arms he had, and accompany'd them in the Triumphant Entrance they made into that Place. During the abode they had occaſion to make there, to recover themſelves after the Hardſhips of ſo long and painful a War, they apply'd themſelves carefully to regulate the form of Government of the Countries they had Conquerd. But above all things, they judg'd it in no wiſe ſafe for them, to ſuffer the *Chriſtians* to remain Maſters of ſo conſiderable a Town as *Hiſpalis*. I have noted in the beginning of this Hiſtory, that the Siege of this Town had not

been undertaken, for fear of bringing the Peſtilence into the Army: Wherefore a truſty man was ſent on purpoſe into thoſe parts, to ſee how matters ſtood; who having brought word back, That the Contagion was there more rife than ever, and that an infinite number of Perſons dy'd of it, it was judg'd requiſite to leave it ſtill alone, and that it would be ſufficiently deſtroy'd by this Scourge of Heaven, without there being any need to infect it likewiſe with that of War.

One thing on which they found themſelves oblig'd to think preferable to all others, was to recompence Count *Julian*, for the great Services he had done to *Valid*. They had promis'd him to cauſe his Caſtle of *Algeſirees* to be * Rebuilt, and to Repair and Reeſtabliſh his other Lands and Lordſhips, that had been ruin'd by the paſſage he had given through them, to all the Forces that came out of *Africa* into *Spain*. Inſomuch that they caus'd great ſumms of Money to be given him, and granted great Franchizes and Priviledges to all his Relations and Followers. Whereupon he took his leave of them, to repair home to ſet all

* *Hara*, Reparation.

all things again to Rights, and injoy, if he could, the Sweets of the Revenge he had taken of *D. Rodrigo*.

After this, they fell in good earneſt to conſider of regulating and policying their new Kingdom, and of re-populating that great Country that was become a Deſert, by the flight of all the Inhabitants. Wherefore ſeeing that the *Moors* they had left in Garriſon in the Cities and Burroughs where they had paſs'd, had no Wives, tho they were all very Young, and that it was impoſſible to furniſh them with enough from *Africa*, whence their Fathers and Mothers would never conſent to ſuffer them to depart; they caus'd Proclamation to be made by ſound of Trumpet, throughout all *Spain*, That all the Chriſtian Women and Maidens, as well of the ancient Inhabitants, as of whatever Nation they were, that were willing to be Converted, and Marry themſelves to the Conquerours, ſhould enjoy the ſame Priviledges and Prerogatives which they enjoy'd before. They caus'd at the ſame time, another Declaration to be Publiſhed in favour of the Gentlemen, to whom they offer'd

the Dividend of the Conquer'd Lands.

This Publication in a ſhort time, either out of fear or intereſt, caus'd an infinite number of *Chriſtians* to change their Religion, and the Women and Maidens to reſolve upon matching themſelves with the *Moors*. At that time was it that the Arch-biſhop of *Oppas*, who had been General of *Rodrigo*'s Army, that *Tariff* had beaten and taken Priſoner in the ſecond Battel, that had been fought near the River *Guadalete*, as I have ſaid; and the Arch-biſhop *Toriſo*, a very near Relation of that Unhappy King, abjur'd their Faith to * comply with *Tariff* and *Muca*. Theſe two new *Moors*, to manifeſt their Zeal, and acquire ſtill more credit than they had with the Generals, repreſented to them, that to hinder the *Chriſtians* from revolting for the future, or retrieving Courage with time, it was expedient throughly to clear all the Mountains on the Left Hand of *Arragon*, in *Spaniſh* call'd *Biſcaye*, and the *Aſturies*; where they gave them notice that ſeveral Perſons of great Quality had made their Retreat with a great number of Souldiers; nay,

* *Nubic*, Perſwaſor.

nay, and that there was at the head of them ſuch Perſons as were Princes of the Blood of *Spain*, and *D. Rodrigo*'s near Relations; without which their Conqueſt would never be ſecure.

This advice jump'd wholly with *Tariff*'s ſence, who gave immediate order to a *Tartar*, a very good Officer, *Abraham le Sujari* by name, to take ſix thouſand men of the Forces he had by him, and likewiſe to draw as many as he ſhould need out of the Garriſons of *Caſtile*, and to march with the two *Renegado*-Arch-biſhops, into the afore-mention'd Mountains.

At that time a Young Prince, a Kinſman of the K. *D. Rodrigo*, call'd *Pelage*, was retir'd thither with a good number of reſolute men, that were willing to follow his Fortune; and as he was brave, and pretended to the Crown, all the *Chriſtians* that had taking refuge in the Mountains, had elected him King; and certainly he made himſelf appear to be very worthy of that Supream Dignity.

General *Abraham* being come near the *Auſturies*, and encamp'd in a place call'd *Cangas* by the *Chriſtians*, and which the *Moors* ſince nam'd the *Term* *Rabanus fegal. in Spanish, Cabo de contiendas.*

of War, thought convenient to ſend the two Arch-biſhops to him; having brought them along with him, that ſo being his Relations and Friends, they might the more eaſily perſwade him to deſiſt from the Temerity of his Enterprize; with orders to offer him ſuch Preſents, and propoſe ſuch advantages to him, as they ſhould judge convenient, as well as to all the *Chriſtians* that ſhould be with him. Whereupon theſe Arch-biſhops being come into the Country, and offering to make this Propoſal to *Pelage*, he was ſo provok'd at them, that he had them ſeiz'd on, and both thrown from off the top of a Rock, into a River that was at the bottom. And as he had firſt been inform'd by them of the Scituation of *Abraham*'s Camp, and the number of his Forces, he aſſembled what men he had, and went to attack them that very ſame Night: And after having defeated the greateſt part of the *Moors*, he return'd into the heart of the Mountains without any loſs. *Abraham* not expecting this at all, and not ſeeing the return of the two Renegadoes he had brought along with him, fancy'd they had betray'd him; and with the

few

few men he had left, without making any longer ſtay, he return'd with all expedition to *Toledo*, where he dy'd of Grief.

Tariff was very much troubled at this bad event; but having not then Troops ſufficient in one Body to go force the *Aſturies*, he contented himſelf with leading upon the frontier the moſt men he could, that ſo he might hinder the *Chriſtians* of the Mountains, from coming to make Inroads upon the *Moors*. Then he reſolv'd upon ſending to *Almanzor*, his Maſter, a very exact Relation of all he had thitherto done, with the ſtate of all things in *Spain*, and to ask what was his Pleaſure to have further done for his Service. As he wa finiſhing his Diſpatches, he had a Letter brought him from *Pelage*; which Tranſlated out of *Spaniſh* into *Arabick*, is as follows. *Alfiqr*, Sadneſs.

A LETTER.

King Pelage, *to General* Tariff Abenziet.

THE King D. Pelage, *Lawful Heir, Succeſſour in a Right Line of the Kingdom of* Spain, *by the death of the King* D. Rodrigo, *whoſe ſins may God pardon, they being, doubtleſs, the cauſe of his ruine, and my misfortune; to the Valiant and Renowned Captain* Tariff Abenziet, *Cheriſh'd and Eſteem'd by the* Caliph Almanzor, *his Maſter; Greeting. Tho I am as great a ſinner as any other, and that I have nothing good but the confidence I put in the mercy of God; I am willing to make known to thee, that in thy name came two Envoys, who being my Relations, ought not to have come to me, ſince they were Traytors to their Country; I thought my ſelf oblig'd to puniſh them, as I have done; and was content to ſignifie to thee at the ſame time, that tho thou haſt very unjuſtly, and by the force of thy Arms, ſeiz'd on a Kingdom that appertains to me; nevertheleſs,*

I

I hope, with the help of God, to regain it in ſpight of thee. But if it be not his will, I beſeech him to give me the Force and Courage to dye, I and mine, for the Juſtice of my Cauſe, and for the Truth of our Faith, rather than to groan under the Cruel Yoak that thou wouldſt impoſe upon us; beſeeching him daily to give affairs that current as I deſire.

From the *Aſturies* of *Oviedo* *, the 9*th* of *July*, of the *Æra* of *Cæſar*, 753.

* This Date jumps with the year 715 of our Lord.

Tariff Abenziet upon reading *Pelage*'s Letter, had more joy to hear of *Rodrigo*'s Death, which was the thing he had the moſt deſire to know, than uneaſineſs for all the reſt. Wherefore he made an end of writing *Almanzor* the following Letter.

A LETTER.

General Tariff Abenziet, *to* Caliph Valid Almanzor, *Emperour of the* Moors.

PRaise *be given to the Soveraign God, to whom alone is due Sacrifice and Prayer; and afterwards to the most High and most Illustrious* Caliph, *and Emperour of the* Moors, *his Vicar, the Buckler of God, and Defender of his Law, the most Noble* Caliph Valid Almanzor; *whose good Designs may God bring about, to the Happiness and Tranquillity of all his Subjects, as is wisht by* Tariff Abenziet, *General of his Armies; one of his least, but most Faithful Servants.*

Spain *is absolutely conquer'd and rang'd under your Obedience; all the Nations have receiv'd the* * Toak *as far as their mighty high Mountains, by the* Spaniards *called the* Pirenees, *which parts their Kingdom from that of* France. *And there is nothing more to conquer in all that vast extent of Land, but a small*

*Dirma, Yoak.

corner

corner of Earth, amid very rugged Mountains, where ſome Chriſtians *have taken refuge, that is of no great conſideration, and a very great and Populous Town, called* Hiſpalis, *upon the Coaſts of the great Sea, for fear of introducing among your forces the Peſtilence that rages in that place. I have reſtor'd to Count* Julian *all his Lands, as you promis'd him. I ſalute your Grandeur, and the Felicity of ſo many great ſucceſſes. In the midſt of a great Province called* Andalouſia, *is a very populous Town, where the King* D. Rodrigo *commonly had his Reſidence; whoſe Death I have been lately inform'd of by one of his Relations: I have ſettled there as Vice-roy, with your good liking, the Perſon of* Abulcacim Adilbar, *your faithful Servant: This City being proper to ſerve as Metropolis to the whole Kingdom; which I make known to your Celcitude, that you may order him as you ſhall pleaſe, for your ſervice.*

Muca, *the Vice-roy of* Africa, *has rendred great ſervices in this Expedition, where he was ſeveral times in danger of loſing his Life; inſomuch that he, doubtleſs, merits a great Reward, and hopes it from your Goodneſs and Magnificence. May God heap his bleſſings daily upon you.*

From

From *Cordoua*, the 23 day of the Moon *Rageb*, the year of the *Hegira* 94.

All the Anſwer *Almanzor* made to this Letter, was, That *Tariff* ſhould come himſelf to him into *Arabia*, to give him an account of the particulars of the Conqueſt; ordering *Muca* to return into his Government of *Africa*; and ſending *Adilbar* Letters Patents, as Vice-roy of all the Kingdom of *Spain*, ordering all the particular Governours that had been left in the Towns, to whom he had ſent Commiſſions, to obey him in all things.

Theſe two great Captains having receiv'd this order, paſs'd both into *Africa* immediately after; whence *Tariff* went into *Arabia*, while *Muca* remain'd in his Government.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

Pelage *takes the City of* Gixa *from the* Moors, *and burns it.*

SInce that *Pelage* had once vanquiſh'd the *Moors*, he did not doubt but that he could defend himſelf in his Mountains. All the *Chriſtians* of the Neighbouring Provinces repair'd to him after this Victory, flattering themſelves with the hopes he might one day reſtore them to their Liberty. Till then they did not believe there to have been any place in all *Spain*, where they could ſhelter themſelves from the fury of thoſe Conquerors, for as they had not any Retreat where they could be in ſafety, they ſuffer'd themſelves to be put into Fetters. But the young People, that had no Wives, aud were moſt proper for Warfare, began to make their Eſcapes, by little and little, out of the *Moors* hands; and ſteal away by night into the Mountains, where *Pelage* had his abode, ſo to put themſelves under his

his Protection. Inſomuch that in a ſhort time there was a pretty conſiderable Body of an Army aſſembled. Wherefore ſeeing that General *Abraham* was Retreated into *Caſtile*, he reſolv'd to make ſome attempt as might accrue to the Credit of his Party.

With this Deſign, he drew together the moſt men he could, and made up a body of ſix thouſand men, with whom he came to a ſmall City, call'd *Gixa* by the *Spaniards*, and by the *Arabs* after they had taken it, *Takla*. Wherefore having block'd it up with this ſmall Army, few *Moors* were there that expected to be beleaguer'd by *Pelage*, whom they did not think ſo hardy as to budge out of the Tenure where he had hold. Nevertheleſs they ſtood out ſo obſtinately with the Captain that commanded in the Place, that they all dy'd bravely fighting, refuſing to liſten to any Capitulation.

Pelage much ſatisfy'd with this ſmall Conqueſt, caus'd it to be fortify'd, leſt there as Governour one of his Captains, call'd *Manuzes*, and retired with his men into the heart of the Mountain, which the *Chriſtians* in their Tongue call *Oviedo*. *Tariff* was much afflicted at

at this bad ſucceſs. He then perceiv'd that the *Renegado*-Biſhops had well adviſ'd him, when they would have induc'd him to have render'd himſelf maſter of that nook of Land; wherefore imagining that ſome miſchief would come on't; after having given order to the Troops that were in thoſe parts to be ready, and ſent word to *Mahomet Abenramin*, Governour of *Toledo*, to draw the moſt he could together. He alſo ſent him Troops from him, under one of his Captains, call'd *Abenhamza*; who carry'd him an order to attack *Pelage*. All their Troops being aſſembled, were found to make up a Body of twelve thouſand good men, with whom *Abenramin* bent his march towards the *North*.

Pelage making no doubt of getting the advantage this ſecond time as he had done the former, reſolv'd upon waiting the coming of the Enemy in that Town he had newly conquer'd, with about 8000 men he then had with him.

While he was preparing to go receive the *Moors* there, a *Chriſtian* Renegado gave him notice that his Captain *Manuzes*, had made an offer to *Tariff* of delivering up to him that little

little City; nay, and to ſeize on his Perſon. *Pelage* could not doubt of the truth of what he told him, when he had ſhew'd him a Letter he carry'd from that General to *Manuzes*, wherein was the whole train of the Conſpiracy minuted againſt him. He highly entertain'd the *Renegado*; and after having made him a world of Preſents, he deſired him, ſince he expreſs'd ſo much deſire to ſerve his Country, to return to the *Moors* Camp, to tell *Abenramin* that it was not yet time for him to advance, *Pelage* not being yet arriv'd in the Town with all his Forces.

The Renegado having accepted this Commiſſion, made that forged anſwer to *Abenramin*, who was very glad at it, and ſent him forthwith back to *Gixa*, to ſtay till the Prince was there arriv'd, and to bring him immediate word. But inſtead of going thither, he went to the *Chriſtians* Camp. *Pelage* not loſing time, march'd all the night; and being acquainted with the Country, he arriv'd at the Camp of the *Moors*, without they having the leaſt inckling of him, and attack'd them with ſo much vigour, that he

kill'd

kill'd a very great number of them, and put all the reſt to flight; obliging General *Abenramin* to Retreat in great diſorder.

In this Attack the *Moors* loſt two thouſand men, and the *Chriſtians* about eight hundred. But *Pelage* fearing to ingage too far in the Battel with *Abenramin*, who had double the number of his men; and who, after having rally'd his Souldiers that had been taken unprovided, might ſurround him; he made a haſty retreat to the Town of *Gixa*; where as ſoon as he was entred, he caus'd the Traytor *Manuzes* to be hang'd, and his Body burnt. Then for fear the *Moors* might take that Town again, after having turn'd out all its Inhabitants, he ſet fire to't, and Retreated into the Mountains to defend their entrance againſt the *Moors*, by whom he was under fear of being purſu'd.

And indeed *Abenramin* follow'd *Pelage* at the heels; ſo as that he arriv'd at *Gixa* before the fire was quite extinguiſhed. Whereupon having croſs'd it without making any ſtay, that he might endeavour to overtake *Pelage*, he found him poſted at the ſame Place

where General *Abraham* was defeated. He found this Poſt too difficult to force, that he durſt not undertake it, for fear of not ſucceeding; and contenting himſelf with garniſhing well that frontier, he bent his march back to *Toledo* with all his Army, being aſham'd at his having perform'd ſo little in this Expedition. He ſignify'd to *Tariff* all that had paſs'd, while he expected his orders, which he deſired he would ſend him; and this General ſignify'd to him to ſeparate his Troops, and remain in his Government till farther order. This caus'd *Abenramin* to diſmiſs his Army, and ſeek to recreate himſelf after the fatigues of this War.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVIII.

The Unhappy end of Count Julian, *of the Counteſs his Wife, and of* Florinda *his Daughter.*

COunt *Julian* having taken leave of the *Mooriſh* Generals, as has been ſaid in the former Chapter, aſſembled all his Adherents, as well Relations, as thoſe that had follow'd his Fortune; and ſeeing the bad condition the *Algeſires*, and his other Lands were in, he went to ſettle himſelf in a very pleaſant place, that is upon the back of the *Mediterranean* Sea, call'd by the *Spaniards Villa Vitioſa*; from whence he could give the orders neceſſary for the reparation of all his Houſes, and the adminiſtration of the vaſt Eſtate he had. As ſoon as he was there arriv'd, he ſent to his Wife and Daughter to come to him. They had ever made their abode at *Tangier*, waiting the event of this War; but ſeeing it terminated, they fail'd not to repair immediately to him.

The Count and Counteſs were over-joy'd to ſee one another again, after ſo long a ſeparation *; only *Florinda* continu'd ſtill melancholly, whatever Careſſes were made her by her Father and Mother, and whatever care they both took for her Diverſion. She had ever before her Eyes the ruine of her Country, the deſtruction * of the *Chriſtians*; the Death, Servitude, or at leaſt, the Miſery of ſo many Millions of men; and when ſhe call'd to mind that ſhe was the occaſion of ſo many evils, ſhe was not capable of any joy: Above all, what gave her moſt anxiety, was to ſee her ſelf diſhonour'd, and without hopes of ever ſeeing her ſelf in the Rank and Eſtabliſhment ſhe might have expected according to her condition. All this ſo Topſy-turvy'd her mind, that at the long-run, either through the inſtigation of the Devil, or through a black vapour that offuſcated her Brain; ſhe mounted to the top of a Tower, where ſhutting the Door after her, for fear of being hinder'd from Executing what ſhe had reſolv'd on; ſhe entreated a Governant to go ſeek her Father and Mother, with whom ſhe had a mind

* *Alfirac*, Abſence.

* *Alfacar*, Deſtruction.

Alhueran, Deſpair.

mind to ſpeak. And as ſoon as they were come, ſhe began to ſpeak to them from the top of the Tower, as a Perſon that had abſolutely loſt her ſenſes; telling them, that ſo unfortunate a Maid as ſhe did not deſerve to live, principally being the cauſe of ſo great a Deſolation*, as that of all *Spain*; and continuing ſuch like Diſcourſes; *My Father and Mother*, cry'd ſhe to them, *Henceforward in memory of my misfortune, let not this City any longer be call'd* Villa Vitioſa, *but* Malaca; *for now the worſt Perſon that ever was, is going to dye.*

* *Alfacar*, Deſtruction.

No ſooner had ſhe utter'd theſe laſt words, but that without hearing or Father or Mother, or any of thoſe that were there, and without yielding to the Remonſtrances they made her, ſhe threw herſelf from off the top of that Tower; and having batter'd her ſelf in falling, ſhe only liv'd three days. Her Mother ſwoon'd away at this Spectacle, and Count *Julian* laid ſo to heart the misfortune of a Maiden for whom he had had ſo much kindneſs, that his imagination remaining wounded thereby, he thought it to be a *Puniſhment of God: And perhaps it

* *Hichab*, Puniſhment.

was ſo, and that this befell him for his ſins. For the Leaf of the Tree makes not any motion in the Air; and the Ant takes not a ſtep upon the Earth but by his order *. Thus this Imagination made him loſe his ſenſes, and become mad to that degree, that he himſelf Stabb'd a Ponyard into his own Breaſt. In a little time alſo after his Death, the Counteſs his Wife fell ſick of a Cancer *; and after having undergone inconceivable pains, ſhe dy'd at laſt of a Natural, but a very grievous Death.

* *Ida*, the will of God.

* *Karatan*, a Cancer.

As they left no Legitimate Children, *Almanzor* took Poſſeſſion of his Lordſhips, and Re-united them to the Crown of *Spain*. This Death prov'd a great ſcandal, both among the *Chriſtians* and *Moors*; and that Town is call'd *Malaca*, on occaſion of the laſt words *Florinda* utter'd at her dying, when ſhe threw her ſelf off from the top of the Tower. The *Spaniands* ſay *Malaga* in lieu of *Malaca*; and this word is made of the two ſhe was heard to utter at her Death; for ſhe ſaid, Let this Town be no longer call'd by its ancient name, but let it be call'd *Malaca*, ſaid ſhe, that is to ſay Wicked; becauſe in it this

this Day dyes the moſt Wicked Creature in the World.

The *Arabs* call this *Florinda*, as alſo *la Cava*, which ſignifies Wicked; and certain it is, that tho this Count had ſerv'd *Almanzor* with great Fidelity, yet was he a Traytor to his King and Country. For which reaſon, Wiſe and Vertuous Men ought to have a care of thoſe ſort of People that are ever cover'd with Infamy *, and that were never ſeen to come to a good end, but like to that of this Count, and of all his Adherents.

* *Cuſabara*, Infamous People.

CHAP. XIX.

Muca *being vex'd that* Almanzor *did not ſend for him as well as* Tariff, *diſpatches his Brother to him with the Deſcription of all* Spain.

Muca was very much vex'd that he had not been ſent for to Court as well as *Tariff*, and would willingly have been preſent at the Relation that Captain was to make to *Almanzor*, of the particulars of all that War, and of the ſtate he had left all things in, in *Spain*; fearing that in giving the Account all alone, he would attribute the whole Glory to himſelf. He fancy'd he had done him ſome ill Office in the Letter he had written to their Monarch, ſince he did him not the Honour to deſire to ſee him, no more than if he had not had the leaſt ſhare in the Conqueſt they had made together; wherein *Muca* was very much

much deceiv'd; for *Tariff* ſpoke of him as his Friend, as well in his abſence as his preſence; and he ſince found it plainly by the Letter, whoſe Tenour I am going to inſert.

He fancy'd he had render'd as great Services as *Tariff*, and that he had not only had all the Principal Direction, but that he had ſerved in his own Perſon, and expos'd his Life to a thouſand Dangers. Nevertheleſs, he plainly ſaw that it might befall him, what commonly befalls thoſe that are diſtanc'd from the Court; and that, inſtead of receiving a Recompence * proportionable to his Services, he might, perchance, be put out of his Maſters favour.

* *Soer*, Recompence.

Labouring under this anxiety, he knew not what courſe to take; for to leave his Government, and repair to Court without Permiſſion, that could not be; to ſtay, and not go thither, was a hazarding his Fortune, and an expoſing himſelf to all the laſhes of Envy and Jealouſie. At length, having unboſom'd his Heart to ſome of his Friends, they found a medium betwixt theſe two Parties, which was, to ſend his Brother *Iſmael* to Court, under colour

colour of carrying the *Caliph* a Deſcripti-
* *Hatrit*, Deſcripti-on. on * of the Land they had ſubdu'd, and a ſtate of all things that concern'd the War. But indeed there to value and improve his Services, and fathom if the Emperor did him Juſtice. Now theſe are the terms of his Letter, in form of Relation.

A Letter from *Muca*, Vice-roy of *Africa*, to *Caliph Almanzor*, Emperour of the *Arabians*.

PRaiſe be firſt given to God, the Sovereign Creator of all things, Amen; *and then to the moſt high and moſt Illuſtrious* Caliph, *the Buckler of God, the Defender of his Law, and Emperour of the* Arabians, *the* Emir Mumenin Almanzor: *to whom God give a long and happy Life and a flouriſhing and quiet Reign; as is wiſh'd him by the leaſt, but the moſt Faithful of his Subjects*, Muca, *Vice-roy of his Realms of* Africa: *Who makes known to You, as he is thereunto oblig'd, that moſt of thoſe that inhabit them, are happyer than ever they were; being return'd*

Rich

Rich with the Spoils they have brought from Spain; *as muſt, doubtleſs, have been told you, by one of your moſt Valiant Captains and Loyal Subjects,* Tariff Abenziet; *who Expos'd his Life a Thouſand times for the augmentation of your Crown, in this Conqueſt. This I can better teſtify than any Body, having been in moſt Actions with him, as I thought it my Duty. I did not content my ſelf with providing the two Armies by Land and Sea, with what was neceſſary for them* *, *to take all the trouble of them, and be at all the Charges; the zeal I have ever for your Service, made me paſs over thither with a third Army: And ſince I entred into that Country, which is a* Peninſula *in reſpect of us, I have carefully obſerv'd all I have ſeen, and took a very exact Information, as well of the* Chriſtians, *as the* Renegadoes *of that Country; of its Scituation, and of the manner of living of its Inhabitants. I thought you would pardon me the freedom of ſending a Relation of it a little long, but true.*

* *Tubi alomart,* Proviſion of all.

The

The Relation.

Irtiſah, Climate.

THis Iſland is Scituated under the Elevation of the *Artique* Pole, from the Thirtieth to the Fiftieth Degree, on the *North* of thoſe Kingdoms of *Africa*, that are under my Government; and which are ſevered from it partly by the *Mediterranean* Sea, and partly by the great *Ocean*.

All this Country that we have Conquer'd, contains about Eighteen Hundred Miles in Circumference; and ſtretches out into a Length, repreſenting the Figure of an Animal. The Climate is exempt from bad Vapours; the Air is there ever Serene and refreſh'd by the Winds, which occaſions the People to be long Liv'd and very Healthful; the Plains are water'd with an Infinity of Springs that fall from the Rocks, whoſe Water is very ſubtile and well taſted. All theſe Waters collected from ſpace to ſpace, from Noble Rivers, the moſt of which have their Courſe towards the *Weſt*, and ſo go and diſembogue themſelves into the *Ocean*, tho there are ſome that fall into the *Mediterranean* Sea; and all of them furniſh the People with a World of Fiſh of a very

very good Taſte, and not Unhealthful. We ſee no Serpents there, nor any Wild Beaſts; there are no Leopards nor Lyons, Ounces or Griffins: And when any of thoſe Creatures have been ſometimes brought thither from other Countries, they could not live. This occaſions the Country to be very Populous, and that there are neither Lands nor Mountains altogether uninhabited *. Beſides this, there are all ſorts of Fruits, as well in Winter as Summer; there being ſo many Trees in the Gardens, that they ſeem to be Forreſts, and ſuch Delicious Places, as ſeem to be a Terreſtial Paradice. In Summer, there is a vaſt abundance of all ſort of Meat, by means of the great abundance of Paſturages; where an infinity of Cattel is ever found, and a great quantity of all ſorts of Wild and Tame Birds, that even come to Winter there from ſeveral Countries, as one more Temperate.

* *Hala*, Deſert.

The People, as well Men as Women, are of a middle ſtature *; and the Cities obſerve an Excellent Policy. The Inhabitants are all Cloath'd in very Fine Woollen, are naturally Wiſe, and being addicted to War, they are curious of Horſes,

* *Hadaca*, Diſcretion.

Horſes, and have ſuch as are very Vigorous. The Soyl produces good Bread and excellent Wine, and ſo great a quantity of Oyl, that there is rather too much than too little. There grows all ſorts of Herbs and Pulſe; and particularly, all Simples as are needful in Phyſick. They gather there Silk and Linnen in abundance, of which they make very fine Stuffs. There are Mines of Silver, of Copper, of Lead, of Iron, and Quick-ſilver: For as for Gold, I have not heard there was any. As there are many different Nations, there are alſo ſeveral ſorts of Tongues, that have not any Relation with ours.

This *Peninſula* confines upon *France* on the *North*, and is * ſeparated thence by very high and very rugged Mountains, by them call'd the *Pyrenees*. We paſs'd them, *Tariff* and I, in the Head of your Armies; but we thought that it became us not to undertake the Conqueſt of another Kingdom than that of *Spain*, without your Permiſſion: After having entred pretty far into the Country, we Retired again, without having loſt any of our Men.

* *Tubcim*, Divided.

I end in telling you, That this Country is full of all ſorts of Riches, and that there is wherewithal to live very pleaſantly, and with all ſorts of Conveniences: Congratulating you for ſo many, and ſuch happy ſucceſſes, which I only inform you of in the Bulk, leaving the particulars to Tariff, *who will give you an Account of all that is not in this Letter; relieve me in the faults I have therein committed, and with your Celcitude's leave, will here find aſſurances of my Friendſhip; praying God that he would aſſiſt you in all things with his Grace.*

From the Palace of *Morocco* in *Africa*, the 3*d* of the Moon *Dulqueſita* *, the Year 94.

* This is in the month of *November*, in the Year 715 of our Lord.

Iſmael with this his Brothers diſpatch, being Shipp'd in a very light Barque, for the making the more haſte; in a little time arriv'd in *Arabia*, and preſented his Letter to *Almanzor*: This great Prince, tho ſufficiently inform'd of all thoſe Affairs of *Spain*, did nevertheleſs expreſs much joy at his receiving Teſtimonies of the care *Muca* took of all things that related to his Service; and to ſhew the value he had for

for him, he commanded his Brother to ſtay with him until farther order.

Iſmael ſent immediately a Courier to his Brother, to ſignify to him the manner of his Reception.

This was a great Conſolation to *Muca*, he taking the order the Emperour had given his Brother to attend upon his Perſon, as a good Augure. This Mighty Prince having aſſembled the Principal Lords of his Empire, and conferr'd with them, and particularly with *Tariff*, upon all matters; the Reſult of this Council was to ſend *Iſmael*, as Ambaſſadour, to the King of *Thunis*, to condole with him the Death of the Prince his Son, thank him for the Succours he had given him in this War, that had more than a little contributed to the Conqueſt of *Spain*; and to demand in Marriage his Daughter, call'd *Omahair*, for *Abilgualit Abinacer*, his Eldeſt Son, and Heir to all his Kingdoms.

Iſmael, very well ſatisfied with being choſen for ſo Noble an Employ, departed with an Magnificent Equipage; a very Noble Train, and a great number of Martial Men, as well for his Guard as for the Dignity of his Embaſſy.

baſſy. He was very welcome at *Thunis*, and had immediate Audience of *Mahomet*; to whom he gave the *Caliph's*, his Maſters Letter, and the Preſents he had brought. He was highly entertain'd by that Prince; who having agreed to the Propoſal, and having Examin'd it with the Principal of his Council, this Match was found advantageous for the State, and ſuitable for the Princeſs *Omahair*; and for this reaſon, he with all Expedition diſpatch'd away *Iſmael* with an Anſwer as favourable as the *Valid* could deſire it; as it is eaſy to ſee by the Letter and Anſwer.

A Letter from *Valid*, to the King of *Thunis*.

Praiſe be to God, Amen.

THE moſt High, and moſt Puiſſant Caliph Valid Almanzor, *Emperour of the* Arabians, *to the moſt Wiſe, and moſt Potent King of the* Moors, *Grand Juſticiar, Warriour, Martial, and Defender of the Law of God*, Mahomet Gilhair, *Greeting with all ſort of Tenderneſs and Ami-*

ty. I am under great Obligations *of imparting to you the happy Event of the Enterprize I made upon the Kingdom of* Spain, *ſince you had ſo great a ſhare therein, by the* Succours *you gave me for the Conquering of it. But the Death of Prince* Gilhair *your Son* *, *has much diminiſh'd the joy I ſhould have had; and I have only to repreſent to you on this Occaſion, that ſince it has pleas'd Deſtiny* *, *or rather the Providence of our Great God, ſo to ordain by one of his Decrees, conceiv'd from the knowledge of men, and reſerv'd to his Eternal Science: There is only Suffering with Patience the Evils he ſends us; and praiſe him in the mean while for the Benefits we daily receive from him. For which reaſon I ſhall ſay no more to you upon this, reſting ſatisfied with ſhewing you how much I intereſt my ſelf in all that concerns you, through the peculiar Eſteem I have of your Virtue, through the acknowledgment I ought to have of all the Benefits I have receiv'd from you, and the Amity you have ever had for me, as your Good Relation: And through a thouſand other Reaſons, which* Iſmael *the Bearer of this Letter will tell you; whom I deſire you to afford entire Credence, as to the Propoſals he ſhall make*

* *Gayta*, Extraordinary Grief.

* *Cada*, Fatality.

make you in my Name, that I ſhall reckon my ſelf happy, can they but Succeed as well as all your Deſigns; for which I pray God with all my Heart.

From our Palace of *Carbal* *, the 4*th.* of the Moon of *Babeth*, the 2*d.* day of the Year 94.

* This is in the month of *April*, in the Year 716 of our Lord.

The King of *Thunis*'s Anſwer.

Praiſe be to God the Creator of all things; to whom alone is due Sacrifice and Prayer.

THE *Generous King of the* Moors, *the Exalter of the Law of God, and Extirper of his Enemies,* Mahomet Gilhair; *to the moſt Honour'd, moſt Noble, moſt Wiſe, moſt Prudent, and moſt Potent Emperour of the* Arabians, Valid Almanzor; *to whom the Great God give a Long and Happy Life, as well as to all his Servants: Health. I am oblig'd to you for imparting to me the happy ſucceſs of the Conqueſt of* Spain, *which has afforded great joy; and ſtill more at the Propoſal that has been made*

me in your name, according to the Credentials you ſent me. To which I have no other anſwer to make, but that I ſhall eſteem my ſelf very Happy, that all you expreſs your ſelf deſirous of, be treated and accompliſh'd in ſuch manner as you ſhall pleaſe to order; as a thing that abſolutely depends on you. I pray God to take you into his keeping.

From our Palace Royal of *Thunis* *, the 11*th* of the Moon of *Rageb*, in the year 95.

* This is in the month of *July*, in the year 716 of our Lord.

Iſmael was very much pleas'd to carry back ſo favourable an Anſwer as this into *Arabia*, where he had a kind Reception made him by *Almanzor* and all his Court. The happy iſſue of this Embaſſy, occaſion'd the *Caliph* to give him the Office of * *Algouazil*; being one of the Chief of his State that fell vacant after his Return, and made him at the ſame time incur a great deal of Envy.

* The Office of *Algouazil* among the *Moors*, was as that of Preſident of *Caſtile*.

CHAP.

CHAP. XX.

Adilbar *went to inveſt the City of* Hiſpalis *with his Army, but is conſtrain'd to raiſe the Siege, and return to* Cordoua.

WHen that General *Tariff* and the Vice-roy *Muca* had repaſs'd the Sea, before they began their Voyage, the one into the *Eaſt*, according to *Almanzor*'s orders, and the other into the *Weſt*, to his Palace of *Marocco*, where his Brother *Iſmael* expected him; they caus'd Proclamation * to be made throughout all *Africa*, in the name of the Emperour their Maſter; That all thoſe that were minded to paſs into *Spain*, there to inhabit, needed only to repair thither; and that they ſhould have Lands given them to cultivate, Houſes to dwell in, with all the conveniences neceſſary to Life; and great Priviledges and Exemptions. Theſe Promiſes, and the rumour of the Beauty

* *Bando Alchar*, a publick cry by ſound of Trumpet.

of the Country, caus'd a world of People to paſs the Sea; not only Natural *Moors*, but *Jews* of the *Hebrew* Nation, who paſs'd it with their Wives and Children, and all the Goods they had, to the number of fifty thouſand Families, according to the Regiſter taken of 'em by *Adilbar*.

This is the ſecond time that the *Jews* came into *Spain*.

This Vice-roy, by an expreſs order he had receiv'd from *Almanzor*, of repopulating that great Kingdom, which he had confided to his Conduct, diſtributed with an admirable œconomy, throughout the Kingdom of *Spain* theſe new *Spaniards*, according as they landed. The Governours, and Subordinate Commanders, gave afterwards in the Provinces and Cities, to each of thoſe Families, Conquer'd Lands, proportionably as they were convenient for 'em to live in, whereof he made particular Eſtates. And they had all ſo great an application to this matter, and kept ſuch good order, that this great extent of Land became in a ſhort ſpace more populous, and more cultivated, than it had ever been before; and the new comers were ſo well accuſtomed with the Natives of the Country, that there ſeem'd not to be any difference among 'em,

'em, nor as if any change had there happen'd.

Adilbar ſeeing ſo numerous a People under his ſway, and all the particular Governours ſo obedient to his will *, thought himſelf in a poſture to make ſome attempt for the ſervice of his Maſter. He remembred that they had not dared to attack *Hiſpalis*, by reaſon of the Peſtilence that raged there when the Generals went away; and had informations that the *Chriſtians* flocked thither from all patts, ſince its ceaſing. For which reaſon, having aſſembled the greateſt number he could of Infantry and Cavalry, and made a Body of twelve thouſand Foot, and two thouſand Horſe; he departed from *Cordoua*, after having given all the Directions requiſite, and march'd directly to *Hiſpalis* in the head of this Army; ſmall indeed, but very brave, and provided with all things neceſſary *. He ſtraightways ſent a Trumpeter to Summons the Inhabitants to Surrender, promiſing them all ſort of good uſage, as Generals of Armies are wont to do in ſuch occaſions.

* *Muhyin*, obey'd by all.

* *Mala Qualia*, well appointed.

The Inhabitants, without liſtening to his Promiſes, or being concern'd at his

Threats, made no other anſwer, but that they were reſolv'd to defend the goodneſs of their Cauſe to the laſt, and to be cut all in pieces, rather than fall under Slavery.

After ſuch an Anſwer, *Adilbar* thought there was no farther parlying. On the morrow morning, he caus'd a moſt furious Aſſault to be made: But as the Beſieged were well inform'd of the manner with which the *Moors* had perform'd the Sieges of all the other Towns of *Spain*, they had made Proviſion of a world of Poſts of ſeveral faſhions, which they fill'd with boyling Oyl, *Juniper* and *Turpentine*, and threw them upon the Beſiegers; which burnt them alive, and incapacitated them from fighting, by reaſon of the violence of the pain they ſuffer'd.

Farica. *Adilbar* confus'd and vex'd at the damage his men had receiv'd from the Beleaguer'd, without its being in his Power to do them any, caus'd the Retreat to be ſounded, and his Troops put into Quarters, to ſee what he had to do: He had loſt four hundred men in this laſt Aſſault, and plainly perceiv'd, that as often as he employ'd force, there would be nothing to be got,

got. Wherefore he imagin'd, that being Maſter of the Field, and having Victuals abundance in his Army, whoſe ſubſiſtance he could furniſh to as long as he pleas'd, in the Neighbourhood of that Town, he could ſo well block up the Avenues, that it ſhould be conſtrain'd to Surrender, without his ſo much as loſing one man; he reſolv'd not to decamp thence till he had famiſh'd it.

The Beleaguer'd gueſſing that the *Moors* had taken this courſe, ſince they had remained five and twenty days together, without continuing their attacks; they reſolv'd to Sally out upon them, when as they leaſt expected it. For this purpoſe, without making any Buſtle, as could make the Beſiegers ſuſpect their Deſign, they aſſembled all their reſolute * men; And one Night, Sallying out of one of their Gates, they fell with much vigour upon *Adilbar's* Camp.

* *Inzi, Habi*, Reſolution.

The *Moors* defended themſelves with great Reſolution, but believing the number of their Enemies ſtill greater than it was, in the darkneſs that hinder'd them from viewing one another, they betook themſelves to flight *, and the *Chriſtians* made a great ſlaughter of them.

* *Fazar*, a Rout.

them. To avoid the inconveniences that commonly happen in Engagements that are perform'd by Night, the Governour had order'd all thoſe that were commanded out upon that Sally, to ceaſe fighting, and retire into the Town, as ſoon as he ſhould cauſe a Horn to be ſounded; whoſe ſound he had caus'd them to obſerve. Thus fearing they might engage too far on the purſuit of the *Moors*, who might cut them off, he caus'd it to be ſounded, when he judg'd it convenient.

The *Chriſtians* had much ado to reſolve upon quitting the Engagement, being very much fleſh'd by the *Moors*, who gave way before them on all ſides, and were purſu'd by them with the Sword in their Reins: But at the long run, retiring by little and little, in the order that had been preſcrib'd them, they re-entred the Town, where they were receiv'd with great Applauſes, by the Beleaguer'd; who caus'd a world of Muſical Inſtruments to be ſounded, in token of Joy for ſo great a Victory.

The Day being come, the ſlaughter the *Chriſtians* had made appear'd to *Adilbar* much greater than he had believ'd it: And perceiving the ſtrength of

of this Town, and the Valour of thoſe that defended it, he found it more convenient to raiſe the Siege, than to perſiſt any longer obſtinately in an Enterprize, which was more difficult than he had imagin'd. Whereupon he took his march back to *Cordoua*; and having found his Army diminiſh'd in two thouſand Foot, and two hundred Horſe, he had loſt in this Siege, he ſeparated it, and put it into good Quarters in the Country, that it might recover it ſelf.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXI.

Adilbar *makes a ſecond Attempt upon* Hiſpalis, *and is as Succeſsleſs as before.*

Adilbar was diſconſolate at the bad event of the firſt Enterprize he had made for the *Valid*'s Service: He was aſham'd that the only Town the *Chriſtians* held in *Spain*, had reſiſted him, after *Tariff*, with ſo little pains, had taken all the reſt. He imagin'd all the *Moors* * murmur'd at it, and himſelf found that *Almanzor* could not effectually call himſelf abſolute Maſter of that Country, as long as that Town was not under his Obedience.

* *Hird*, Murmur, Scandal.

Wherefore having ſent for all the Governours of thoſe Provinces, and conferred with them about the neceſſity, and the means for the reducing it; he began to make greater Preparations than he had yet done; and having aſſembled fifteen

fifteen thouſand Foot, and fifteen hundred Horſe, he took the Field in the beginning of the Spring *, of the 95*th* Year of the *Hegira*, and march'd directly to *Hiſpalis*; in the Neighbourhood whereof, he lodg'd all his Troops.

* *Fael Arabeh*, Spring.

The tryal he had made in the firſt Siege, of the Valour and Induſtry of the Beleaguer'd, which had made him break up from thence, without having effected the leaſt, had render'd him wiſe; and as he was a good * Commander, he had caus'd certain Chariots to be made, cover'd with very thick Boards, that ſo his Souldiers might, as under cover, fight ſhelter'd, without any inconvenience from the Boyling Oyl, and all the other things, that the *Chriſtians* might throw from off their Walls.

* *Harbal Abidad*, Genius for War.

After having begun, by Summoning the Town again to Surrender, and receiv'd thence as haughty an Anſwer as that he had before, he caus'd his cover'd Chariots to advance, with a multitude of Pioneers, ſuſtained by a good number of Souldiers, that he had plac'd underneath; and having brought them near the Courtin, he had it undermin'd

dermin'd in the Places he judg'd to be the weakeſt.

The Beleaguer'd ſeeing theſe Machines, and dreading the effect of them, aſſembled to conſult about the moſt proper means to ſecure themſelves from ſo great a danger. Their Governour, call'd *Sarmato*, being a Man of Wit and Reſolution, let them ſee that there was no occaſion for them to be alarm'd as they were, and caus'd them to ſeparate into three Brigades, that they might the more eaſily ſuſtain the three different Attacks.

Adilbar had not omitted any one of the Precautions he could imagine, againſt all that the Beleaguer'd could invent for their defence; and as he had caus'd to be made a kind of great Stone-Bows *, with which they ſhot up very great Stones, he pointed them to the places where they could do moſt miſchief; and making 'em mount upon his Chariots, he caus'd ſo great a quantity of 'em to be thrown, that few places were there in the City, where the *Chriſtians* could be in ſafety.

* The *Arabs* call them *Mauſenech.*

Sarmato ſeeing ſo many extraordinary means employ'd to attack him, fell on his ſide

ſide alſo to the contriving ſome for his Defence; and having caus'd the ſtrongeſt of the Inhabitants to aſſemble, with fitting Inſtruments for the removing the Earth, he caus'd Ramparts to be rais'd, behind and within the Walls, that when even the *Moors* ſhould have effected the making ſome Breaches therein, they might find 'em ſtopt with ſo much Earth, as that it would be impoſſible for them to enter 'em. This wiſe Governour, by this Precaution, put himſelf in a poſture of receiving no damage from all the Inventions of his Enemies: For there was already ſo much Earth behind the Wall, that when they had broken it, they would find they had got nothing by the bargain: Nay, and many had been cruſh'd to pieces by the great Stones the *Chriſtians* roll'd upon thoſe Chariots: And as for thoſe the *Moors* caus'd to be thrown into the Town, as there ſtood Sentinels on the top of the Towers, to give the Signal to the Inhabitants to make their eſcape, when they ſaw any coming, moſt commonly all their Machines were fruitleſs.

Adilbar being in Deſpondency at ſo many ill ſucceſſes, reſolv'd upon giving

a general Aſſault. While he was prepa-ring all his Forces for that purpoſe, and that the Scaling Ladders were erected on one ſide, he caus'd his Cha-riots to take a great circuit towards the other end of the City, for the un-dermining the Wall at the ſame time. Whereupon, having given the Signal for the attack, at break of day, which he had choſen for that intent, the Beſiegers went on with an extraordinary fury, and the Beſieged ſuſtain'd it with great reſo-lution.

The *Moors* in the mean while, ha-ving again chang'd their Chariots, and faſtening upon part of the Wall that was weaker than the reſt, made a great Breach, by which ſome enter'd the Town; but *Sarmato* repairing in all haſt thither, with a great many Soul-diers, left them there not long; and having drove them thence, caus'd that gap to be ſtopt up with a great quanti-ty of Earth: Certain it is, the Town had been taken, had he delay'd one mo-ment longer; but the Night having put an end to the Conflict, *Adilbar* found he had loſt five hundred men, whereas the Beſieged had loſt but two hundred.

hundred: So great an oppoſition made him take up again the Reſolution he took the time before, of ſtopping up all the Avenues of the Town, that ſo the *Chriſtians*, being preſs'd by hunger and thirſt, might be conſtrain'd to Surrender. He remain'd there in this manner forty five days, after which, *Sarmato* conſidering that *Adilbar* might hold him block'd up in this manner, as much, and as long as he pleas'd, being Maſter of the Field, from whence he might have all ſorts of Refreſhments; he reſolv'd upon going to attack him in his Camp, as he had done the time before.

Wherefore having aſſembled twelve hundred Foot, choice men, and a hundred Horſe, he caus'd them to Sally out at Mid-night, through a Poſtern-gate of the Town. The *Moors* having ſeen the *Chriſtians* had been ſo long without fighting, did not expect this ſudden Aſſault at all: By this means the *Chriſtians* kill'd a very great number of them, and retired in good order, by favour of the night. *Adilbar* fearing the like accident to that which befell him in the former Siege, ſent a part of his Horſe to ſtop the Soul-

diers that were minded to purſue them; inſomuch, that he found the next day that he had loſt four hundred Foot, and thirty Horſe, whereas there fell not above a hundred and fifty of the *Chriſtians*, whom this General caus'd to be Interr'd as well as the *Moors*, for fear of their creating an Infection in his Camp.

The Beſieged were much ſatisfy'd with the ſucceſs of this ſecond Sally; but in a ſhort time after, *Adilbar* caus'd a ſecond aſſault to be made, which was ſo furious, that whatever reſiſtance they made, the *Moors* at length gain'd a Courtine. The Governour flying thither forthwith with a re-inforcement of Souldiers, perform'd ſo well, that he at laſt drove the *Moors* again from their Poſt, and put it into a poſture of Defence. This Conflict laſted from break of day, till Three of the Clock in the * Afternoon; when *Adilbar* ſeeing his men diſheartned, caus'd a Retreat to be ſounded, to dreſs the wounded. He found among the Dead three hundred *Moors*, and about a hundred and fifty *Chriſtians*; but there was a very great number wounded; and among others, one of his

* This time is call'd *Hacar* in *Arabick*.

his Officers, called *Hali Abenzainee*, which afflicted him very much, and whom he caus'd carefully to be dreſs'd, as well as all the reſt; confirming himſelf in the firſt Reſolution he had taken, of having the Town by Famine.

The Beſieged fearing to want Victuals, that they might precaution themſelves before-hand, with the remedies neceſſary againſt the miſchief wherewith they were threatned, had caus'd very deep * Canals to be made, from the *Weſtern* Gate of their Town to a great River, that paſſing very near their Walls, falls afterwards into the Sea. By the means of theſe Canals, they went into the River with great Boats; and theſe Canals being Fortify'd all along with good Trenches, inſomuch that the Cavalry could not do them any miſchief, there came to them, from time to time, Victuals from the Mountains of a certain Country, call'd *Biſcaya*: Theſe Canals were a very great help to the Beſieged; for beſides their having by this means all things brought them, the Water of the River ſerv'd them for a thouſand conveniences.

* *Hafir*, Ditches.

Adilbar having not then any Ships to hinder the *Chriſtians* from having every moment all neceſſaries, was very much at a loſs, and was loath to reſolve upon raiſing the Siege once again: When news was brought him of the revolt of the Governour of *Valence*, call'd *Abubaker el Handali*, and of the Inroads he made into the Neighbouring Provinces of that Kingdom.

So urgent an evil, and which he ſaw himſelf indiſpenſably oblig'd forthwith to remedy, made him preſently raiſe the Siege, and march long days journeys to *Cordoua*; which the *Chriſtians* of *Hiſpalis* were very glad of.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXII.

Adilbar *goes to* Valence, *defeats the Governour of that Province and has him Beheaded.*

THe great Siege, wherein *Abubaher el Handali*, Governour of *Valence*, ſaw *Adilbar* engag'd in, had made him hope that he might in that time, render himſelf abſolute Maſter of that fine Province. In this Deſign, having gain'd all the Governours of the ſmaller Cities, and all the Martial Men under his Authority, he would needs caſt off the *Valid*'s Oath; and having brought a ſmall Army on Foot, he began to make Incurſions into the Neighbourhood, that he might by force oblige all the People thereabouts to obey him as their Soveraign Lord.

Adilbar being inform'd of theſe Tranſactions, as I ſaid in the foregoing Chapter; caus'd a new Army to aſſemble, of ten thouſand Foot, and

eight hundred Horſe; and with theſe Forces, croſſing the high Mountains that are on the *South*, he arriv'd at the City of *Murcia*; to whoſe foot extends the Government of *Valence*: *Abraham Eſcaladari* was then Governour of the Place, who being inform'd of *Adilbar*'s march againſt *Abubaher*, had got ready a Magazine of Proviſions, to diſtribute them, as he did among his Souldiers: And having join'd him with all the men he had, they two march'd together toward *Valence*.

The Rebel ſeeing ſo great an Army coming againſt him, and having no place of ſafety whether to Retire, thought it much better to try the fortune of a Battel, and win it, or dye like a Man of Courage, than go baſely yield himſelf up. Having inſpired the ſame reſolution into the minds of his Adherents, and diſpos'd them into the beſt order he could, as ſoon as *Adilbar* had ſet footing in his Government, he went to meet him; and in that Battel, did all that could be done by a good General, and good Souldier; but being at laſt taken, and all his men defeated, *Adilbar* caus'd his Head to be

ſtruck

ſtruck off, and had it ſet on the top of a Lance, on the Gate of that Town, which he gave for Plunder to his Souldiers.

He made a ſtrict ſcrutiny after all thoſe that had had a hand in this Rebellion, that he might of them accordingly make an Exemplary Puniſhment: And indeed, many Commanders and Captains had the ſame Fate with their Leader; and after having reduc'd that Country to its Obedience, and there eſtabliſh'd one of his Captains, call'd *Mahomet Abenbucar*, he return'd to *Cordoua*, and diſmiſſed his Troops.

CHAP. XXIII.

Almanzor *gives* Tariff *a place in his Council, and chooſes him for his Ambaſſadour* Extraordinary, *for the Concluſion of the Prince his Sons Match, with the King of* Thunis's *Daughter.*

Almanzor making reflection on the great Services render'd him by General *Tariff*, on all occaſions, and particularly in the Conqueſt of the Kingdom of *Spain*; for the diſcharging himſelf of the Obligation he had to him of ſo great an augmentation of Empire, and of ſuch vaſt Riches he had thence deriv'd, had not a more Glorious Recompence to give him, than a place among thoſe of his Council *, and who ſhare in the adminiſtration of all his Kingdoms, for which account he put him into that number, and

**Mutagua Quilalriaca*, Miniſter of State.

and nominated him Ambaſſadour Extraordinary, to go conclude the Princes Match, and fetch away the Princeſs of *Thunis*. He caus'd a Fleet of forty Ships to be fitted out for that purpoſe, with all the Magnificence requiſite for ſo ſolemn an Embaſſy, and which was undertaken for ſo agreeable an end. *Tariff* being embark'd with a world of Courtiers, and a good number of Souldiers, arriv'd ſafe at *Thunis*, where he was receiv'd and entertain'd with all his People, as well as heart could wiſh; and after having made a very ſhort abode there, he went on Board his Ships again, with the Princeſs *Omalahaire*, and all her Train, and return'd into the *Levant* with a very fair wind.

The *Infanta* being arriv'd in *Arabia*, the Nuptials were Celebrated with great Pomp; and there were Turnaments, Tilting, and all the other merriments that are wont to attend thoſe ſort of Feſtivals.

Almanzor ſeeing his Son Marry'd, and finding him at an age to govern his State himſelf, thought it to be now time to Execute a deſign he had long meditated, of diſcharging himſelf of that

that heavy burden, he had for ſo many years born upon his Head; finding alſo that his Old Age, caus'd him by little and little, to ſink under the weight of it: For which reaſon, ſeeing himſelf worn out, and attack'd with many Infirmities, he reſolv'd upon devolving it upon that of his Son, that ſo he might retire into a Houſe of Pleaſure, he had caus'd to be built in a Mountain, where he had very pleaſant Gardens, very thick Woods, and excellent Waters. Whereupon having caus'd the States to aſſemble, where it was his Pleaſure to have all the Governours of the Provinces preſent, he imparted to them the Dimiſſion he meant to make of the Empire, in favour of his Son; and at the ſame time, caus'd the following Letters Patents to be expedited.

Letters

Letters Patents,

Of *Almanzor's* Demiſſion in favour of his Son.

Praiſe and Glory be given to that Great God, the Creator of all things, Amen.

THE *moſt High, the moſt Noble, the moſt Dread Lord and Emperour of the* Arabs, Valid Almanzor; *Vicar of God, and Protector of his Law, Son of the moſt Noble, and moſt Honour'd Lord, and Martial; Warriour,* Caliph, *and Emperour of the* Arabs; *Father of the Servants of God, and exalter of his Law,* Abdulmelech, *Son of Victory.*

Luna amis Abihabdi Allahi, that ſignifies the Father of the Servants of God; and *Ibninacer,* intimating the Son of Victory.

*Conſidering the Neceſſity we are reduc'd to, by the Infirmities with which it hath pleaſed God, our Soveraign Lord, to viſit *us; and the decrepit Age wherewith Nature is wont to over-whelm all men in the order of times; which occaſions our being not ſtrong enough to govern ſo great an Empire, as we have done in time paſt for the ſettlement*

* *Ziara,* Regale.

ment of our Crown, the Peace and Tranquillity of the State, and the greateſt Good and Utility of our Subjects; and to hinder the Diſſentions and Diſcords that commonly happen after the Death of Kings, which are wont to overturn the beſt eſtabliſh'd Empires; and for other Conſiderations, us thereunto moving; we have thought convenient to Renounce, Grant and Tranſport, by theſe Preſents, all the Sovereign Authority that we have, with the Scepter and Crown we bear, in ſuch manner as it appertains to us, in Quality of* Caliph, *Abſolute and Sovereign Lord, without acknowledging any Perſon living for Superiour in Temporals; to our Well Beloved, and Obedient Son, the Wiſe, Virtuous, and accompliſh'd* Aboulvalid Abenacer, *our eldeſt Son, Lawful Heir, and neareſt Succeſſour; on whom may God beſtow the Wiſdom neceſſary for the Governing all his Kingdoms, in ſuch manner, as that all his Subjects may enjoy a continual Peace and Tranquillity, by reſerving to us the direct Siegneury, in caſe of Death, or failure of Succeſſion, or any other ſuch like misfortune, or diſgrace; which we pray God not to ſuffer to make way for our returning to the Throne, to which we no longer pretend any Right.*

* Dahir, Patents.

For

For which reaſon, We ſignifie and order to our well-beloved Son, and Lawful Heir and Succeſſor in the ſecond Degree, the Prince Abraham Amcari, *and to all thoſe of our Council of State and of War, and to all the Governours, Cadis, Generals and Captains; and to all, and as many as there are of our Officers and Subjects, of what Quality and Condition ſoever they be, to hold and Honour, as Emperour of all theſe Kingdoms, our ſaid Son* Aboulvalid Abenacer; *and in that Quality, make Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity to him, as from this preſent we mean to make to him our ſelves, acknowledging him for King, and giving him all the Power we have hitherto had, according to the Laws, commanding expreſly all our Subjects* * *to obey his Commands, and Execute all his Orders, as if they were iſſued out by us, on pain not only of our Malediction, but of that of God, of his anger, as they muſt needs all incur that want Fidelity to their King; and for a token of the effectual Poſſeſſion of all that is contain'd in theſe Preſents, we mean to put them our ſelves into his hand, in the preſence of all the Governours and Subjects, aſſembled in our Palace for that purpoſe. For ſuch is our Expreſs determinate Will and Pleaſure;*

* *Alumyid,* People.

to

to which end, we have our ſelves ſign'd theſe Preſents with our hand, and have caus'd our Great Seal to be put thereto.

In our Palace of *Corbal*, in *Arabia Fælix* *, the 3*d.* of the Moon *de Vaguel*, in the Year 95.

* Beginning of the month of *October*, in the year 716 of our Lord.

By the means of this Renunciation, *Aboulvalid Abenacer* being acknowledg'd and Crown'd King, his Father *Almanzor* took a choſen number of his moſt Faithful and moſt Ancient Domeſticks, to attend and ſerve him in the Place he had reſolv'd upon making his Retreat, leaving his Youngeſt Son *Abraham Amcari*, with the King, his Eldeſt; and no ſooner was he arriv'd in that Solitude, but that his Infirmities daily augmenting, he fell into an ill Diſtemper, which laſted upon him till Death, which, in ſhort, fell out in a little time after.

Abraham had a haughty Spirit, and and mmenſe Ambition; the *Caliph* being very jealous of him, and uneaſie on his ſcore, that he might deprive him of the means of fomenting Cabals againſt him, ſent him into Stony *Arabia*, which

is

is a Country of very ſmall extent; and where he could not find wherewithal to do him any great miſchief.

About that time the Governour of *Damas*, *Abenbukar* by name, who all his life long had had roving and Chimerical thoughts, imagin'd that *Almanzor* being no longer in the World, he might attempt all with impunity. He thought of no leſs than of diſpoſſeſſing *Aboulvalid*, and of placing himſelf in his ſtead; and had aſſembled a great Army, with which he ravag'd all the Provinces bordering upon his Government. The *Caliph* was alſo oblig'd on his ſide to take the Field, to bring him to his Duty; when that Prince *Abraham Amcari*, who was continually gnaw'd with the luſt of Reigning, and omitting nothing he judg'd uſeful to his Deſigns *, found it to be the moſt propitious juncture he could wiſh, for the manifeſting them to the World. Whereupon he on his ſide aſſembled the moſt Horſe and Foot that was poſſible for him; and after having paſs'd the Deſarts of *Arabia* *, he march'd directly to Court with all his forces, making ſemblance of coming to his Brothers aſſiſtance againſt *Abenbukar* the Rebel.

* *Albadar*, loſt no occaſion.

* *Alcahari*, Sandy Mountains.

And

And accordingly he met with a kind welcome at firſt; but having all on the ſudden changed face, and having ſeiz'd on the Caſtle, and the beſt Gates of the City, about midnight he ſent to ſeize on the principal perſons of the Court, as well Officers as people of Service, whom he thought Loyal to his Brother, and had 'em all beheaded. This ſo intimidated all the reſt, that either out of the fear they had of him, or by reaſon of the little affection they bore the King, and the eſteem they had for this Prince, whom they ſaw to be brave and generous, and love War *, they were eaſily inclin'd to acknowledge him for their King; nay, and there was ſo great a concourſe of People at his Coronation, that meaning to improve that firſt heat he ſaw them in, and not thinking it convenient to let it cool again, he took the Field with all thoſe that ſuffer'd themſelves to eſpouſe his Party. His Brother *Aboulvalid* was gone at the head of his Forces againſt *Abenbukar*; wherefore he thought he could eaſily pen him up, between his own Army, and that of that Rebel. And after having left at Court a Captain, a Creature of his, call'd *Xaira Alxadali*, in whom he

* *Ymala*, to win hearts.

he put entire confidence, he march'd directly to his Brother with all his Troops; which he found to make up twenty thouſand Foot, and fifteen hundred Horſe.

The King was ſo ſurpriz'd at this News *, that he was ready to run mad; and to ſee if he could apply ſome remedy to ſo great and un-foreſeen an Evil, he quitted the deſign of reducing *Abenbukar*, to return with all expedition to meet his Brother.

* *Aturmuhim*, Ill News.

The two Armies being in ſight of one another, *Aboulvalid* ſent a man on purpoſe to *Abraham*, to divert him from ſo unjuſt and unreaſonable an Enterprize; and repreſenting to him that he was going to be the occaſion of the Death of an infinite number of men, which could be only imputed to him alone; but that if he would deſiſt from his deſign, he promis'd him in the word of a King, to forget all that was paſs'd, and to receive him as his Friend and Brother *. *Abraham* made no other anſwer to this, but that he was not come thither to be reconcil'd, but to fight; that he ſtood in no need of the friendſhip he offer'd him, but of the Crown he had upon his Head;

* *Taha*, obedience, protection, friendſhip.

that he was *Almanzor*'s Son and Heir as well as he; that he had only to prepare to defend himſelf, and that their Rights being at the point of their Swords, they would that day decide which of the two had the beſt, giving the Kingdom to him that ſhould gain the Victory.

Having in this manner ſent back *Aboulvalid*'s mediator, and having threatned to have him hang'd, if he came again to importune him with ſuch like harrangues. The *Caliph* with grief ſaw himſelf oblig'd to give Battel; but at laſt, having marſhall'd all his Army in Battalia, it began with ſome ſquadrons of Horſe of both ſides, who were a long while mingled with one another, before any judgment could be paſs'd which of the two had the advantage: And this Skirmiſh that laſted above half the day, without any great loſs on either ſide, plainly ſhew'd the Cavalry to be compos'd only of good men, that knew admirably well both to attack and defend.

On the morrow, the twelfth of the Moon *Dulquehala* *, in the Year 96, the Battel was renew'd, and prov'd ſtill more bloody for both Parties; for it

* In the month of *December*, in the year 717.

it laſted from Morning till Noon, without ones being able to judge on which ſide the Victory lean'd: But at length, *Aboulvalid*'s people beginning to buckle, and thoſe of *Abraham* to break in upon them on all ſides, *Aboulvalid* fearing to fall into his Brothers hands, made his eſcape out of the hotteſt of the Engagement, upon a very fleet Horſe, after having made a ſign to ſome of his people to follow him. The Kings Retreat utterly diſhearten'd all his men, who were immediately after eaſily put * to flight.

* *Facar*, flew put to rout.

The Prince purſu'd them at their heels; and after having kill'd a very great number of them, he return'd to give the neceſſary orders for all Occurrences, and then return againſt *Abenbukar*, while that *Aboulvalid* was withdrawn into the Kingdom of *Thunis*, where he was kindly receiv'd by his Father-in-Law, who knowing the misfortune that was befallen him, through the perfidy and wickedneſs of his Brother, comforted him the beſt he could, and promis'd to aſſiſt him in his revenge.

CHAP. XXIV.

Abraham Amcary *goes to fight* Abenbukar; *defeats him, and has him beheaded.*

Abraham being puſt up with the winning of this Battel, and over-joy'd to ſee that all the paces he made, conducted him upon the Throne, without any ſtop, he march'd directly to Court; where having conven'd the Eſtates, to confirm the Government he meant to eſtabliſh, he caus'd them there to take a new Oath of Allegiance to him, by which, all that he had not been able to get approv'd of, but by ſome, before his going to fight his Brother, was confirm'd and ratify'd by all the reſt: And thus was he own'd and declar'd by a common conſent, Emperour of all *Almanzor*'s Realms, as his Lawful Heir.

Then having made ſuch Regalations as he pleas'd, and beſtow'd great Bounties

Bounties on all his Creatures, without loſing time, he took the Field with fifteen thouſand Foot, and fifteen hundred Horſe, to go to *Damaſcus*.

Abenbukar, being fully inform'd of all theſe Tranſactions, came to meet him with an Army of twenty thouſand Foot, and two thouſand Horſe, inſomuch, that they were not long without coming to blows. *Abraham* would needs, before he gave the Signal for Battel, do as lawful Kings do to Rebels; and ſent to tell him, That as he had not any Right to the Crown, he could not believe he would perſiſt in his bad deſigns, or that he would be wanting in his Allegiance to his Prince; wherefore he offer'd to Pardon him all that had paſs'd, if he would but return to his Duty.

Abenbukar having caus'd the Princes Envoy to come into his preſence, would not go about to excuſe himſelf with ſorry reaſons, as do all Traytors that can never have any that are good; but anſwer'd him ſharply, and like a gallant man, That between two Traytors, and two Diſloyaliſts, as they both were, he had only the hand of him: but that *Abraham* had committed a

much greater infidelity in diſpoſſeſſing his Brother *Aboulvalid*, who was his Lawful King, according to the diſpoſition of his Father, and that of Nature, than he, in withdrawing himſelf from his obedience, with all the Province of which he was Governour, ſeeing all his people oppreſs'd with impoſitions *, and very ſeverely us'd by King *Aboulvalid*.

* *Mazarem*, Subſidies.

That he had learnt that to ſtate things aright, Nature caus'd no body to be born upon a Throne; that all the Kings of the Earth were Tyrants; that the Scepter belong'd to him to whom God had given the ſtrength to bear it; and the Soveraign Authority to him that had Wiſdom and Ability ſufficient to govern the people; and that as all Created things had their beginning, and their end, Monarchies were not exempt from this general viciſſitude; that thus there was no need of reaſoning any farther.

Abraham being extremely provok'd at ſo haughty and ſo inſolent an Anſwer, would no longer defer giving Battel, contrary to the advice of moſt of his Officers, who counſel'd him to ſtay the Conjunction of all his Forces, that

that were not yet arriv'd, *Abubenkar's* Army being much ſtronger than his, and all his Troops appearing much more ſprightful; but they could not prevail with him to change the reſolution he had taken.

Some of the Cavalry that were detach'd on both ſides, having began the Skirmiſh, they quickly engag'd in a general Battel, that was very obſtinately fought, and very bloody, *Abenbukar* being skill'd in all the ſtratagems of War, had plac'd his beſt Officer in Ambuſcade behind a Hill, with five hundred choſen Horſe, that had order not to appear till the Battel was far engag'd, and then to attack the Princes men in the Rear; and this occaſion'd *Abenbukar's* winning the Battel: For this Captain, bolting juſt in the nick from his Ambuſcade, put all *Abraham's* Forces into ſuch great diſorder, that this Prince ſeeing himſelf penn'd up on all ſides, threw himſelf from off his Horſe, and ſo fled o're the Mountains, that he might get again into *Arabia*.

Abenbukar being Maſter of the Field of Battel, return'd to *Damaſcus*, loaded with Honour, and the Spoils of *Abraham's* Camp he had plunder'd; and ex-

pecting to have ſuddenly another Army upon his back, he did not diſmiſs his, but put it only into good Quarters in that Country.

Abraham, at his return, having met with a very cool reception from the *Arabians*, it ſpighted him extremely, and gave him great confuſion. Wherefore having again conven'd the Governours and Commanders that were under his ſway, he gave them to underſtand that he was reſolv'd not to ſuffer *Abenbukar* to glory long in his Victory; and commanded them to make ready to take the Field in fifty days ſpace, with all the Forces they had under their charge. They ſo very punctually executed this order, that at the day appointed, he found himſelf at the head of an Army of forty thouſand Foot, and five thouſand Horſe; with which he march'd again for *Syria*.

Abenbukar had not ſlept on his ſide, and knowing the great preparations that were making againſt him, caus'd Proclamation to be made throughout all the neighbouring Countries, of large pay, and great Rewards, for all thoſe that would come into his ſervice, and bring him Troops: By this means he

he fram'd a body of thirty thouſand Foot, and three thouſand Horſe; and with theſe Forces ſtaid Prince *Abraham*'s coming up, who without entring into any parleys, as he had done the time before, as ſoon as he came in ſight of *Abenbukar*'s Army, he march'd directly upon him, to engage him in the Battel, that was very bloody on both ſides. But at laſt, *Abenbukar*'s Troops being defeated, he was taken generouſly fighting, and brought to *Abraham*, who, without ſaying a word to him, in the rage he was in, and without giving him time to ſpeak, or the Executioner to come, he cut his Throat with his own hands, ſtriking him ſo furious a blow with his Scimitar upon the nape of his Neck, that he cut off his Head, which he caus'd to be put on the top of a Pike, on the Gate of *Damaſcus*. He was not ſatisfy'd with having himſelf perform'd the Execution, for having caus'd him to be fleed, he commanded the placing upon that ſame Gate that Wretches Skin, which he had caus'd to be fill'd with ſtraw; and the like uſage did all thoſe meet with that had had a hand in this Rebellion. At length, being

being grown weary of putting people to Death, and believing that Province abſolutely reduc'd, and ſufficiently chaſtiz'd, he left there as Governour, a Captain, in whom he had great confidence, call'd *Abencirix*, and return'd to recreate himſelf at Court, where he was receiv'd by his Partizans with great Huzzahs, and mighty Exultation.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXV.

King Aboulvalid *aſſembles a great Army in* Africa, *and marches againſt his Brother* Abraham, *gives him Battel, wherein his Brother is kill'd.*

KING *Aboulvalid* being retir'd to *Thunis*, as I have before obſerv'd, labour'd under great anxiety to ſee himſelf drove out of his Kingdom by his own Brother, and employ'd his thoughts wholly upon the means of being reveng'd. *Mahomet Gilhair* was no leſs concern'd than this Unhappy Prince, conſidering him not barely as his Son-in-law, but as his own Son. Wherefore having reſolv'd on aſſiſting him with all his might, he made great Levies thoughout the whole extent of his Kingdom, gave Commiſſions to all the principal Perſons of his Court and Country, and fitted out a great Naval Army, which he had ſtor'd

ſtor'd with all the Proviſions neceſſary for a great Embarkment.

Aboulvalid did not forget himſelf on his ſide, and well perceiving there was no man that could aſſiſt him more ſtrongly in his occaſions than *Muca*, Vice-roy of *Morocco*, and of all the *African* Provinces; he ſent a man on purpoſe to him in a Felucca, with this Letter.

King *Aboulvalid's* Letter, to *Muca*, Vice-roy of *Morocco* and *Africa*.

Praiſe be to God, Amen.

THE *Great and Warlike Emperour of the* Arabs, *of the high Lineage of* Motaleb; *Vicar of God, and Defender of his Law*; Aboulvalid Abenacer; *Son of the moſt High and moſt Dread* Caliph, *and Emperour of the* Arabs, Valid Almanzor: *To the Valiant Captain, Virtuous and Accompliſh'd Knight*; *Truſty and Loyal Servant of our Royal Crown*, Muca, *our Vice-roy in* Africa, *Greeting*. Abenbukar *Governour*

vernour of Damaſcus, *meaning to with-draw himſelf from his Allegiance to Us, and we having taken the Field with an Army to chaſtize him*, Prince Abraham *our Brother, taking that occaſion to exe-cute the deſign he long had had of trou-bling the State, and having had the bold-neſs to take up Arms againſt Us, to the great dammage of our Subjects, and to the great contempt of the Obedience to Us owning; for which, according to all Laws of Juſtice, he merits Death as well as* Abenbukar; *and for the procuring his puniſhment, and preventing the miſfor-tunes that his Rebellion may produce, you are order'd, That as ſoon as you ſhall have receiv'd this Letter, to cauſe to aſſemble, with all poſſible diligence, the greateſt number of Troops poſſible, in the extent of our Kingdom of* Africa, *and that you cauſe them to embark with all the Proviſions neceſſary, nay, and with all the Gold and Silver that is found in Our Treaſury of* Morocco, *all which to be ſent Us to* Thunis, *where we are at preſent; further conjuring You, if You have any one in whom You have ſufficient confidence, as to truſt with him the care of your Government, to come your ſelf in Perſon at the head of your Army, to*

ſerve

ſerve Us in ſo urgent an occaſion, and to provide for all things according to your wonted prudence, wherein We have an entire confidence.

From *Thunis*, the * 14*th.* of the Moon of *Mahatran*, the Year 97.

* In *January* 718.

Muca having with great reſpect receiv'd the King his Maſters Letter, in a ſhort time aſſembled an Army of thirty thouſand Foot, and having got together all ſorts of Ammunition, and fitted out a mighty Fleet, he embark'd in it himſelf, with the Royal Treaſure he had in his keeping, finding that it could not be better employ'd than for ſo good an occaſion, for which it was undoubtedly reſerv'd: Nay, he thought himſelf oblig'd to quit all things, to ſignalize his Zeal and Fidelity in his Maſters * ſervice, and contribute thereto, not only with his Cares, but with his Perſon. In his room in *Africa* he left a very brave Man, and in whom he had great Confidence, call'd *Alicunicy*, a Native of Stony *Arabia*, and arriv'd ſafe at *Thunis* with all his Army, at the end of the Moon of *Rabeh*, on the 2 of that ſame year 97 of the *Hegira*.

* *Maulah*, King and Lord.

There

There he found King *Aboulvalid* employ'd in Shipping the Troops he had got together in thoſe parts; who embrac'd him very affectionately, and careſs'd him to a high degree. This Prince had already nominated *Tariff Abenziet*, who had atchiev'd the Conqueſt of the Kingdom of *Spain*, in his Fathers Life-time, *Generaliſſimo* of all his Forces, and had caſt his Eyes upon him, as upon the greateſt, and moſt lucky Captain of thoſe times.

Theſe two great Armies having been a long while in embarking, the King put at length to Sea, and with as fair a Wind as he could wiſh, in a few days time he arriv'd in *Arabia*; where having made a Review of all his Troops, his Army was found to be ſixty five thouſand Foot, and five thouſand Horſe, which gave him a great deal of Joy.

All the People of that Coaſt, ſeeing ſo numerous and ſo flouriſhing an Army, far from oppoſing his Deſcent, declar'd themſelves immediately for him.

In the mean while, Prince *Abraham* knowing all his Brothers Preparations, did not ſleep on his ſide. He had aſſembled all

all the Chiefs * of the *Arabians*, and after having given 'em notice of the ſtorm wherewith they were threatned, and having made them apprehend that they were to expect little leſs than to be ſtrangled, if *Aboulvalid* ever re-mounted upon the Throne; and that it was much better to dye in the Bed of Honour, than upon a Scaffold, as he was reſolv'd to do, to ſhew 'em the way. They were all ſo ſenſibly perſwaded by his Arguments, that in their own Defence, they made up a very conſiderable Army, that was found to be ſixty thouſand men, got truly in the beſt manner they could together.

* *Muſa Mahawi*, States.

Abraham having made no difficulty to go meet his Brother with his Forces, the Battel was fought in the Plain of *Cahar*, on the 3 of the Moon *Dulquihida* *, in the year 97. It laſted from Sun riſing to its ſetting. *Abraham* then perform'd all that could be done by a great General, and a good Souldier: But ſeeing his Army in Diſorder, he threw himſelf into the hotteſt of the Engagement, where he was kill'd with his Sword in his hand.

* The *Arabians* name is; *Faliaz Abra*, in *November* 718.

Aboulvalid did much lament his not having been able to take him alive; and doubt-

doubtleſs, as he had ever had a kindneſs for him, maugre all the miſchief he had done him, he would have given him his life, and would have been contented with continuing him in a perpetual impriſonment. Wherefore having caus'd his Body to be put into a Coffin, he purſu'd his way towards *Carbal*, whence the Queen his Wife was coming to meet him; tho ſhe had ever been kept as a Priſoner, the Prince had ever had her very civilly treated: *Aboulvalid* was mighty joyful to ſee her again, but could not forbear expreſſing much grief for *Abraham's* death; he caus'd the whole Court to put on * mourning, and aſſiſted at his Funeral, which he caus'd to be perform'd with great Pomp; nay, he was ſeen to ſhed tears in that occaſion; but he had not the ſame mildneſs and clemency for all the Officers that ſided with his Brother; he put a great number of them to Death, and ſet himſelf to retrieve his Authority, and ſet matters again to rights throughout the whole Empire.

* *Hiſu*, mourning, tears.

General *Tariff* receiv'd a wound in his Right Arm in the Battel, which he had neglected at firſt, by not refrain-

ing to mount on Horſeback, after his uſual manner; but through the little care he took of it, and through the toyl and drudgery of marching, his Arm ſwell'd in ſuch manner as to gangre; and ſo in a few days time ſent him out of the world.

Aboulvalid was much griev'd at the loſs of ſo great a General, and to ſhew the eſteem he had for him, he caus'd him to be Interr'd with great magnificency, and had the ſame honours paid him, as had been paid to the Perſon of his Brother. And I can certainly ſay one thing of him that is ſomewhat ſingular, that his Valour was accompany'd with ſuch great Fortune in War, that he never undertook any enterprize but what he ſped in to his honour.

This Prince, after having puniſh'd, as I have ſaid, thoſe that were revolted againſt him, began with recompencing thoſe that had ſerv'd him ſo uſefully in that War, by diſtributing among them the Governments, Lieutenancies, and Employs, inſomuch, that they were all ſatisfy'd with the returns he made to their Services; and then ſet his thoughts upon enjoying amid Pleaſure, the repoſe that had coſt him ſo dear. CHAP.

CHAP. XXVI.

Adilbar, *Vice-roy of* Spain, *leads his Army into* Biſcaya, *againſt* Pelagius, *and thence returns without doing ought.*

Adilbar having ſped ſo ill in the Siege of *Hiſpalis*, he had receiv'd order from King *Aboulvalid* his Maſter, to go the ſooneſt he could, to make the Conqueſt of thoſe Mountains, where *Pelage* had made his Retreat, and where an infinite number of *Chriſtians* were gone to find him, from all the corners of *Spain*, to ſave themſelves, with their Wives and Children, from the fury of the *Moors*.

Whereupon, he ſent a Renegado-ſpy, to examine the ſtrength of thoſe Places where this Prince lurk'd, and to enquire into the number of the Souldiers he had with him, and the world of People that had there taken refuge.

The Renegado being entred into the Country, pretended to make his eſcape as well as the other *Chriſtians*, from the Perſecution of the *Moors*, and over-ran all the Mountains of *Biſcaya*, where he moſt carefully obſerv'd all he ſaw, in purſuance of the orders he had receiv'd from *Adilbar*: But when upon his departure thence again, he was brought before *Pelage*, by the Guards he had plac'd upon the Frontiers, having been taken for a ſpy as he really was; *Pelage* ask'd him a Thouſand Queſtions, but as he was cunning and crafty, he anſwer'd very pertinently, and without being at a loſs: *Pelage* nevertheleſs was not willing to let him go, and kept him ſome days in Priſon; but at length, finding nothing againſt him but a weak ſuſpicion, with which his Imagination had been poſſeſs'd, he ſet him at liberty.

After this, the Renegado took his time ſo well, that he found the means to get again to *Cordoua*, where he deliver'd *Adilbar* an account of all that had befaln him, and of all he had ſeen; aſſuring him, that it was no difficult matter to force the paſs of thoſe Mountains, that were guarded only by

by a ſmall handful of men, of little Courage.

Adilbar being incourag'd by this Relation, reſolv'd upon undertaking the War againſt *Pelage*, well perceiving that if he had once reduc'd the *Chriſtians* of that Canton, *Hiſpalis* would no longer put him in pain, the ſuccours that Town had receiv'd from *Biſcaya*, having occaſion'd it's not being ſurrendred. Wherefore he prepar'd ſuddenly to beſiege it, as not believing thoſe Mountainers could reſiſt him long; and flattering himſelf with the hopes of rendring *Aboulvalid* the abſolute Maſter of all *Spain*, as far as the *Pyrenean* Mountains, that ſeparate it from *France*.

For this purpoſe he aſſembled twelve thouſand Foot, and would not take any Horſe along, as not believing they could be uſeful to him in ſo rocky a Country *. With this ſmall Army, compos'd of choice men, he advanc'd as far as the place by the *Spaniards* call'd the *Term of War*.

* *Gallicia*, Country of Rocks.

Pelage having notice of his march, conven'd the Principal Perſons of the Cantons of *Biſcaya*, to concert with them the means of oppoſing him; and their unanimous opinion was, to

think of defending the Entrance of the Mountains, which was very difficult; this was alſo the ſentiment of *Pelage*; ſo as that having plac'd five hundred choſen men, and well arm'd in Ambuſcade in a great Quarry or Den, that is under a ſteep Rock, *Pelage* plac'd himſelf a little higher with fifteen hundred men, being all he could aſſemble.

The *Moors* going about to mount, to get to that Mountains top, *Pelage* charg'd them with the ſmall Forces he had, but had quickly been overcome, had not the five hundred men that were hid in that Cavern, as I newly hinted, appeared in the nick behind the Enemies, put them into diſorder, kill'd a great number of them, and put all the reſt to flight.

That day *Adilbar* by computation loſt a thouſand men, beſides the great number of thoſe that were dangerouſly Wounded; whereas the *Chriſtians* loſt but four hundred.

Pelage Retreated forthwith, with all his Men, into the hallow of thoſe Mountains, to defend the Entrance of them, well knowing this to be the moſt important of all; inſomuch, that *Adil-*

bar

bar inrag'd at the loſs he had newly undergone; all the faults of which he reflected upon the *Chriſtian* Renegado, who had deceiv'd him; he ſent him to the Gallows.

After having well examin'd the difficulty there was in forcing ſuch narrow and ſteep Paſſages, he found his continuing any longer in that Country, would be only the loſing of time and men, and reſolv'd to put off this Enterprize till another time, when as he might find an entrance more eaſie to force, than that from whence he had been newly repuls'd. Wherefore without ſtaying there much longer, he return'd into *Andalouſia*, where he diſmiſs'd his Army, and ſet his thoughts wholly upon Regulating and Policying that Kingdom, while *Pelage* and his People bleſs'd God for ſo favourable a ſucceſs, and were confirm'd in their opinion of thoſe Mountains, being made in due manner for the putting a ſtop to the Conqueſts of the *Moors*, and ſerve for an *Azylum* and Retreat to the *Chriſtians*; wherefore they us'd their utmoſt endeavours to fortify them to the beſt advantage.

CHAP. XXVII.

Of the Death of the King of Thunis, *and of the great Wars* Aboulvalid *was oblig'd to make to render himſelf Maſter of that Kingdom.*

THE joy King *Aboulvalid* had for the victory he had gain'd over his Brother *Abraham*, was quickly ruffled by the news he receiv'd in a little ſpace after, of the Death of his Father-in-law, *Mahomet Gilhair*. He left no other Children ſave Queen *Omkalair*, wherefore he reſolv'd to ſend out of hand to take poſſeſſion of ſo fine an Inheritance, for fear that if he deferr'd any longer, ſome change might happen, as commonly does in ſuch occaſions: for ſo ſolemn an Embaſſy, he choſe one of his favourites, call'd *Abulcacim Aben Marchan*, who departed in great haſte with all his Train, and was very kindly receiv'd by all the Grandees

of

of that Court, and Lodg'd in the Deceaſed Kings Palace.

Having forthwith conven'd all the Members of the Council of that Kingdom, and having let them peruſe the Powers he had from *Aboulvalid*, in his Name to take Poſſeſſion of that State; they examin'd them, and having found them in the form they ought to be, King *Aboulvalid* was acknowledg'd and declar'd King of that great Kingdom, and *Abulcacim Aben Marchan* Vice-roy in his abſence. But as in all times, and all Countries, People there are Tranſported with a deſire of Ruling; one of the Principal Governours was there of this; who flattering himſelf with the thought that being *Mahomet Gilhairs* near Relation, the Kingdom ought rather to apperţain to him, than to his Daughter, began under-hand to ſollicit all the Leading men and Governours, each in his turn, to aſſiſt him with his Forces. He repreſented to them, That being born in the Country, and with them brought up, and the late Kings neareſt Relation, the Crown belong'd to him, rather than to a Foreigner; and had the knack ſo to coaks them with fine promiſes, that they at laſt reſolv'd

ſolv'd among themſelves for the moſt part, to throw off *Aboulvalid*'s Yoak, and to place him in his ſtead upon the Throne. *Hacan* (ſo was this Captain call'd) wanting not courage for ſo noble an enterprize; having aſſembled all the heads of his Party, entred by main force into the Palace, where *Aben Marcham* had his reſidence. This Vice-King diſtruſted nothing; but as ſoon as he had notice of ſo very treacherous a deſign, having put himſelf upon his defence with what happen'd to be about him, he choſe rather to dye in defending himſelf generouſly, than to fall alive into the hands of the Revolted. Thus though they only really deſir'd to take him Priſoner, they kill'd him, with all thoſe that were about him, without ſo much as one eſcaping.

The rumour of this riſing being immediately ſpread, all thoſe of *Hacan*'s Party proclaim'd him King, after the wonted manner, taking withal an Oath of Allegiance to him: And this new King fail'd not at his acceſſion to the Crown, to beſtow favours upon all his Partizans, and to give, as all Uſurpers do, all the orders neceſſary for the acquiring of reputation *.

* *Tani*, get into credit.

At

At that ſame time, one *Wedneſday* evening, a very great Comet appear'd upon the Horiſon; about whoſe angle it took up towards the *Eaſt*: It was accompany'd with very thick Clouds, extraordinary Winds, and pernicious Exhalations, and appear'd for forty whole days together. This very much affrighting the new King, he caus'd the Mathematicians and Aſtrologers of the Country to meet; who, after having very exactly examin'd the Elevation and Nature of this Comet, and the Sign in which it riſe, ſaid that it threatned the Kingdom with great Wars, and the Kings Perſon with an imminent Death.

* *Subb*, a Comet.

While they were ſtill making their Obſervations, a great Earthquake was felt, and being repeated to the eighth, or ninth time; and there aroſe ſo furious a ſtorm at Sea by the great *Eaſtern* Winds, that all the people of this Country, thought that the end of the World was coming; nay, they ſaid they had heard by night, ſtrange howlings in the Mountains, that ſeem'd to be roaring Lyons. But what moſt amaz'd and was moſt ſtrange, was a Cloud that coming from the *Weſt*, burſt upon

on their heads, and rain'd a water of the colour of blood. The Earthquakes I have newly mention'd, had topſy-turvyed ſome Houſes, and over-whelm'd whole Families under their ruines; in ſomuch, that not only the people, but the King himſelf was in a Conſternation.

Theſe ſurprizing ſigns of Heaven's anger, were follow'd with a great ſcarcity of Corn, that famiſh'd to death ſeveral perſons, as alſo with certain * *Acain.* Contagious * Sores, that taking them in the Groyn, and behind the Ears, knock'd off a very great number.

Aboulvalid, whom *Hacan's* Rebellion had very much inrag'd, ſeeing the people weary'd and ruin'd by all the late Wars, was not in a very good poſture to undertake ſo great an one as this that fell upon his hands. He conven'd the Eſtates, where having expos'd the neceſſity he was under, to go reduce under his obedience a Kingdom that ſo lawfully belong'd to him, on the account of the Queen his Wife; and having demanded of them ſuccours in Money, they anſwer'd him that they ſhould not fail him in his need, but that it was requiſite firſt to know in what

ſtate

ſtate the Kingdom of *Thunis* was, and whether the Peſtilence that had already laſted two months was ceas'd; the reſolution was taken that enquiry ſhould be made; and the perſons ſent thither brought word back, That a world of people was there dead of it, but that the contagion began to diminiſh. This occaſion'd the haſtening the preparations for that War; inſomuch, that a great number of ſtout Ships were fitted out for the taking on Board ſo great an Army, as was that then preparing to be embark'd in it, in the Spring in the Year following.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXVIII.

Aboulvalid *makes* Muca *Generaliſſimo of his Armies, and after having reduc'd the Kingdom of* Thunis *under his Obedience, returns into* Arabia.

Muca had ſerv'd *Aboulvalid* uſefully in the War he had with his Brother; he was his Father *Almanzor*'s moſt Truſty Servant, and had had a great ſhare in the honour of the Conqueſt of *Spain*: All theſe reaſons made this Prince caſt his eyes upon him, to confer on him the Conduct of his Army; and being then in his Government, he ſent him an expreſs Courier to give him notice of this new War, and that he had nominated him Generaliſſimo in all his Armies; the terms of his Letter to him were as follow.

Aboulvalid's

Aboulvalid's Letter to *Muca Abenzairi*, Generaliſſimo in his Armies.

Praiſe be to our Soveraign God, Amen.

THE *moſt High, and moſt Dread, King of the* Arabians; *Vicar of God, and Defender of his Law,* Aboulvalid Abenacer; *Son of the Martial,* Caliph, *and Protector of the Faith,* Valid Almanzor; *to the Governour of our Kingdom of* Africa; *the Prudent, Virtuous, and accompliſh'd Gentleman, Loyal and Faithful Servant of our Crown, and Captain-General of our Armies, by Sea and Land;* Muca Abenzair, *Greeting. We write to you at preſent, to let you know that the Great* Caliph Mahomet Gilhair, *King of* Thunis, *our honour'd Lord and Father-in-law being dead, and the virtuous* Abulcacim Aben Marchan *our Servant, who had been in our name to take poſſeſſion of that Kingdom, of Right and Juſtice to us belonging, hardly beginning to make our people taſt the ſweetneſs of our Reign,*

when

when Captain Hacan, *as you doubtleſs have been already inform'd, entred by main force into the Palace Royal of* Thunis; *and after having kill'd our Governour, and all our faithful Servants, had withdrawn himſelf from his Allegiance to us; and by force, caus'd himſelf to be own'd the abſolute King of all the Country; which he governs Tyrannically. Wherefore, for the recovery of that Kingdom, it is neceſſary that you aſſemble the greateſt number of Troops as ſhall be poſſible for you, in the Kingdoms that are under your Government; and that you ſet forth with them and our Army, to repair to the Port of* Capha *, *in the midſt of the month of* Ragab, *in the approaching hundredth Year of the* Hegira; *at which time, we will go to joyn you with the Army which we cauſe to be rais'd in the Kingdom of* Syria *and* Arabia; *till when we refer the reſolving with you upon all matters, enjoyning you to order all as you ſhall judge moſt expedient, by your Prudence and Valour; wherein we have an entire confidence.*

* It is not known in what place that Port is, nor how it's call'd at preſent.

From our Preſence, in the Palace of *Corbal*, in *Arabia Fælix*, the 2*d.* of the Moon *Mahairan*, in the Year 99.

Muca

Muca having received the King his Maſters Orders, was overjoy'd at the employment with which he honour'd him; and having made Leavies throughout all his Kingdom, and heap'd up all ſorts of Ammunition, as well for the Fleet he had fitted out, as for his Land Army; he embark'd with twenty thouſand very brisk men, and made Sail towards the *Levant*, while the King was embark'd with twenty five thouſand Foot, and eight hundred Horſe, he had aſſembled in *Arabia*, and made Sail towards the *Weſt*; inſomuch, that the two Armies join'd happily in the Port of *Capha*. This fill'd this Prince full of joy, for he wou'd needs come in Perſon to this War, well perceiving that when he ſhould have reduc'd the Kingdom of *Thunis*, he was abſolute Maſter of all *Africa*, from the Sea of the *Levant*, to that of the *Ponant*. Wherefore having Landed at *Thunis*, he found not any oppoſition at his deſcent, and had the means to marſhal both his Armies in Battel-array.

Hacan being fully inform'd of theſe Warlike preparations, was extremely intimidated: Nevertheleſs, as he had been long prepar'd to maintain his

Uſurpation, he had aſſembled forty thouſand Foot, and eight thouſand Horſe; with whom he went with great Reſolution to meet *Aboulvalid*, and couragiouſly ſtood his coming in a large Plain, not far diſtant from the Sea, and call'd *Falh Almaligue**; where having drawn up his Army in Battalia, it began by two bodies of Horſe, that Skirmiſh'd for ſome time before they ingag'd the reſt in the Battel, that laſted all that day, from Three a Clock in the Afternoon, till Night *, that ſeparated the two Armies with the loſs of eight hundred Foot, and about three hundred Horſe, on the Kings ſide; and five hundred Foot, and four hundred Horſe on that of *Hacan*, without reckoning a number of Wounded; among others, one of *Muca*'s Children, call'd *Iſmael*, had two thruſts with a Pike in his Thigh, for which *Aboulvalid* was much concern'd. But the Father ſeeing the Grief his Maſter thence receiv'd, told him with a very gay and reſolute countenance, that there was not matter for ſo much trouble as his Majeſty expreſs'd; neither he nor his Son being come thither to gain Riches, but to dye for his Service; and that thus,

* The Kings Field.

* *Dalam*, obſcurity.

thus, though his Son ſhould not recover of his Wounds, the matter would be ſmall, ſince he was only Born to dye: On the contrary, he ſhould hold his Death as well employ'd, becauſe he had firſt ſo well aveng'd it; and this was true, for he had kill'd with his own hand a very great number of the Enemies; and that day perform'd actions worthy of an Eternal memory.

On the morrow, which was the 9*th*. of the Moon of *Taquel*, in the hundredth Year, the Battel renew'd at break of day, and laſted till Noon, when *Hacan*'s Men began to Buckle, and were at length by dint of Sword defeated. *Hacan* ſeeing the flight of his Forces, ſought his ſafety in galloping after them. At the beginning of *October*, in the Year 725. of our Lord.

The King being entred into *Thunis*, did not think he had gain'd an abſolute Victory, unleſs he had *Hacan* in his hands: So as that he forthwith ſent Foot and Horſe out on all ſides to ſeek him, promiſing them great rewards if they brought him to him. They ſought him ſo well, that the Dogs of a Flock of Sheep barking after him in a Cave where he was hid, created a deſire in them to go thither, and

occaſion'd his being taken. He was immediately brought before *Aboulvalid*, to whom having given a great deal of ill language, as a deſperate man, that ſaw there was no Remiſſion for him; the King, that was otherwiſe very mild, was ſo provok'd, that he caus'd him to be impal'd alive, and left him in that condition upon the Gate of the Town, where he languiſh'd five whole days; at the end of which he dy'd a very cruel Death. All the Principal Leaders of this Rebellion were then Beheaded; and one of the General Officers of the Army, call'd *Abraham Hacen*, was choſen to be Vice-roy of *Thanis*, in the room of *Hacan* the Rebel.

Aboulvalid having ſettled his Authority in that Country, and brought all things again into their Primitive order, ſet forth again with his Army towards the *Levant*; and being arriv'd at *Carbal*, where he was receiv'd with great Acclamations, the firſt thing he did, was to reward all the Principal men that had ſerv'd him in that War, and particularly *Muca*, whom he made of his high Council, and one of the Principal Miniſters of his State. After this, with-

without ſtaying longer in his Palace than was neceſſary to repoſe himſelf, he thought of taking a Pilgrimage to *Mecque*, whither he went with a part of his Court.

Being on his return through the Deſarts, there aroſe ſo furious a Wind, that removing whole Mountains of Sand from one ſide to another, as ſometime happens; it buryed above three hundred Perſons of his Retinue, that were found thus Interr'd alive, which much afflicted him. But having paſs'd them, at the long run he arriv'd in good health in *Arabia Fœlix*, where he was receiv'd with great joy by all his Court, and thought in good earneſt to recreate himſelf, after all the troubles he had thitherto undergone.

CHAP. XXIX.

The Oath of Allegiance which Aboulvalid *cauſes the States to take to* Jacob Almanzor *his Son.*

THE *Caliph* thinking only now of leading a more calm and ſedate life, and conſidering that he had not any other Children than *Jacob Almanzor* capable of ſucceeding him; he was very willing to ſecure to him the Crown, before he was overtaken by Death, that regards Kings no more than other men. For which reaſon, after having conven'd all the Grandees of his Kingdom, a *Morabite*, call'd *Mahomet Algaſeli*, that was in great favour with him, and whoſe advice he demanded in things of the higheſt importance; by his order made them a long Speech, on which he gave them to underſtand, the reaſon for which he had call'd them together; which was to

to own Prince *Jacob Almanzor* for Lawful King of all his great Realms, after his Fathers Death. The States having declar'd, they all approv'd this deſign, as a thing very advantageous to the good and profit of all the Nations. King *Aboulvalid* having one day put on his Royal Robes, ſat in his Throne, and caus'd Prince *Jacob Almanzor* to ſit there with him, on his Right Hand; and then all the Governours of the Places being preſent, *Mahomet Algaſeli* the *Morabite*, being ſeated on the Kings Left Hand, roſe up and utter'd theſe words, with a loud and intelligible voice: *Gentlemen, Honour'd Governours, Virtuous Lords, and all you here preſent; King* Aboulvalid *wills and requires, that you own Prince* Jacob Almanzor, *his Lawful Son, who is here preſent, for abſolute Maſter of all his Realms, after his Death. Are you willing to make Oath to him accordingly?* To which they anſwer'd aloud, *Yes, we are willing*; *Do then*, reply'd *Algaſeli, as a token of the Allegiance you promiſe to him, and of the Poſſeſſion he from this preſent is going to take of the Crown, all that the King and I am going to do.* Then the King riſing, took his Son by the Hand, and ſeated him in

Curci Almalq. Canopy, Throne.

his Throne; and the Prince having taken the Right Hand of his Father, kiſs'd it for a mark of his Obedience. The Father on his ſide, for a token of the Bleſſing * he gave him, laid his Hand upon his Head; and alſo kiſſing his Sons Hand, ſat down by him on his Right Hand; *Algeſeli* the *Morabite* did the ſame, and ſat down on his Left; and after him all the Governours of the Provinces having alſo kiſs'd his Hand; an *Alfaqui* having brought the *Alcoran*, wrapt up in a very rich ſtuff, and having laid it on the Table, *Algaſeli* the *Morabite* roſe up from his Seat, and lifting up his voice, that he might be heard by the whole Aſſembly; *Honorable Governours*, ſaid he, *and Virtuous Knights, and alſo every one of you here preſent; Do not you ſwear and promiſe by the Supreme God, and by all that is contain'd in this Book, to acknowledge and hold all your life long, Prince* Jacob Almanzor, *for your King and Soveraign of all the Realms, as Son and Lawful Heir, and Succeſſour of King* Aboulvalid Abenacer, *his Father?* And all having anſwer'd, *Yes, we promiſe it: Let him then*, the *Morabite* reply'd, *that ſhall not accompliſh what he has now promis'd, be declar'd*

* *Rida*, Benediction.

declar'd Perjur'd, Infamous, and a Traytor to the State, and may the curſe of the Great God fall upon him, and on all his*; and the whole Aſſembly cry'd, *Amen.* And the *Morabite* having ſaid, with an audible voice, That for the ſolemnity of their Oath of Allegiance, all ſhould do the ſame as the King and he did. The King being got up, and having kiſs'd the *Alcoran*, put it upon his Head, the *Morabite*, and all the Chiefs and Governours did the ſame afterwards, each in their order. After which, the *Morabite* being got up from his Seat, and having addreſs'd his Speech to Prince *Jacob Almanzor*; *Your Celſitude*, ſaid he to him, *do you not ſwear and promiſe by the moſt Great, and moſt High, and by all that is contain'd in this Book, in Quality of Kings, and Soveraign of theſe Realms, to do Juſtice to his Subjects*; *and maintain and keep all the Priviledges, that the Kings his Predeceſſors in general, and each of them in particular have granted them*; *ſo as that you may cauſe them to live in Peace, and not ſuffer any wrong to be done them.* And the Prince having ſaid, *Yes*, and that he ſwore and promis'd it: *Mind it well then*, reply'd *Algaſeli*, *for if you do not do*

* *Hazir*, Infamous, Perjur'd.

do it, the curſe of God will fall upon you, as upon one perjur'd; to which the Prince having anſwer'd, *Amen. Let your Celſitude then*, continued he, *to ſhow you make an ſolemn Oath, do as I do*: In uttering theſe words, he took the Book, and having kiſs'd, and put it on his Head, he preſented it to the Prince, who did the like.

This Ceremony being finiſh'd, all the Governours, and Leaders of Troops, going out before the Prince, ſet him on Horſeback, and carry'd him around through the City, in great Pomp, amid the noiſe of a world of Inſtruments: And all alighting at the great Moſch; and having ſaid their Prayers there, return'd with the ſame Pomp to the Palace, where the King his Father waited his coming, and where the whole Cavalcade ended and ſeparated.

This ſolemnity laſted three whole days; during which, there was nought but Feaſts, Conſerts of Muſick, Turnaments, and all the other Recreations to be thought of.

Theſe three days that had been given to joy being paſs'd, the King caus'd the States to be held once again in his Palace, to confirm and ratify all that had been done; and the *Morabite* open'd the Seſſions in theſe terms. *Illuſtrious Captains, Generous Governours, Brave Cavaliers, that are here all preſent; do not you confirm and ratify the Oath of Allegience, to Prince* Jacob Almanzor, *our Soveraign Lord, who is here preſent?* And all having anſwer'd *Yes*; and ſaid expreſly, that they ratify'd it. *Let all*, purſu'd he, *for the concluſion of ſo ſolemn an Oath, do then, as the King and I ſhall do*: In finiſhing theſe words the King aroſe, and having taken the *Alcoran*, he kiſs'd it, and put it again upon the Table; he alſo took the Prince his Sons hand and kiſs'd it; and after that the *Morabite*, and all thoſe that compos'd that great Aſſembly, had done the ſame, they were diſſolv'd, after having all receiv'd ſome favours from the King, who was very much ſatisfy'd with ſeeing the Accompliſhment of a thing he had ſo much

deſir'd.

deſir'd. This great Ceremony paſs'd in the ten firſt days * of the Moon of *Rabeh*, on the firſt day of the Year 104 of the *Hegira*.

*This date falls in the Year 725 of our Lord, in the month of *March*.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXX.

Aboulvalid's *Death, who leaves to one of his Kinſmen, call'd* Mahomet Amcari, *the Regency of his State, during his Sons Minority.*

Aboulvalid was much joy'd to ſee all his great Kingdoms in Peace, and all the Wars and Diſſentions he had been oblig'd to undergo, abſolutely ſtifled: But as the Wheel of Fortune turns continually, and there is no man upon Earth, that has a continued and an accompliſh'd happineſs; all Great, and all Mighty, as he was, he try'd it like other men: For he fell into ſo obſtinate and ſo violent a Feaver, that whatever care the greateſt and ableſt Phyſicians in the World took, that were at that time, they could not bring any Remedy to it. Wherefore this Prince ſeeing that all that was given him, did

did him more hurt than good, reſolv'd upon taking nothing at all: And one day, in their preſence, and in that of the Principal Perſons of his Court, he ſaid, That he plainly perceiv'd it to be the Will of God, that he ſhould dye of that illneſs; that thus he thank'd them for all the pains they had thitherto taken, and that he had no longer any need of them. Then he diſmiſs'd them, as well as all thoſe that were about his Bed, and ſent for *Mahomet Algaſeli* the *Morabite*, to confer with him upon all things, and to provide the beſt he could for the Government of the State, after his Death; which was what put him moſt in pain: For he plainly ſaw his Son was as yet too Young, to be able to contain ſo many Nations in their Duty; and that it was abſolutely requiſite, to give the Regency of the State to ſome one, during his Minority. He was much at a loſs, how to determine on whom to pitch; but he and *Algaſeli* at laſt concluded, that there was not a man of more Ability, nor in whom more Confidence could be put, than in

in *Mahomet Amcari*; his very near Relation; inſomuch, that having had him call'd to him, to tell him the choice he had made of his Perſon; and *Amcari* having made him a thouſand Proteſtations of Acknowledgment and Fidelity, he nam'd him in his laſt Will and Teſtament, the Regent and Lieutenant-General of the Empire, till that his Son *Almanzor* was at Age to Govern.

He liv'd but a very few days after having declar'd his Will in this manner. And as he had govern'd with much Lenity and Juſtice, his Funeral, that was perform'd with great ſtate, was accompany'd with a real Mourning by all the People, and with ſuch tears as departed from a down-right Affliction. *Mahomet Amcari* having immediately taken upon him the management of Affairs, the Queen Mother reſolv'd to live retired, as being well becoming a Widow; and that ſhe might have the more care of her Son, and keep him in the greater ſecurity, withdrew to a Country Houſe, whither the *Caliph Almanzor*, her Father-in-law, formerly retired; and

and where there was all ſorts of Conveniences.

Wherefore being gone thither to ſhut her ſelf up with all her Family, and that of the King her Son; *Amcari* ſeeing himſelf abſolute Maſter of the State, and obey'd by all the Governours of all the Realms that compoſe this great Empire, began to be ſenſible of the movements of Ambition, and the deſire of Reigning, that glides by little and little, like an Earth-worm, into the Hearts of all men; who from the nothing, wherein they were, ſee themſelves rais'd up to Authority: For after having began to prick him on by little bites, they came at length to gnaw him all over.

Having his mind poſſeſs'd with this thought, and only thinking of the means to bring it about, he thought it expedient to begin with gaining over the Principal men of the Council and Army, and the Governours of the Towns and Provinces; as thoſe that had all the Forces of the State in their hands. Wherefore he let not any occaſion ſlip, of making them Preſents, and

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of obliging them. When any of them dy'd, he only put in their place ſuch people as of whom he was well aſſured *, and whom he thought would not fail him on occaſion; and did this with ſo much diſſimulation, that as he ſpoke to no body of his deſign, nor did any body perceive it. At length, having diſpos'd all things to his fancy; having reduc'd them to the point he judg'd proper for the Executing of his Treaſon, he would needs communicate his mind to one of his principal friends, whom he had made head of the Council of War, call'd *Aben Culeyman*; who told him frankly, That ſince he ask'd him his advice, he found great inconveniences, in undertaking a thing of that nature, as long as the Prince *Jacob Almanzor* his Maſter was alive: For as he was beloved by all his Fathers Creatures, there would be doubtleſs, many Governours that would declare for him; that this enterprize would ſeem very ſtrange to the *Arabians*; and that it would meet with great difficulties in the Provinces; where, in imitation of himſelf,

* *Muthen*, ready to ſerve him.

ſelf, there would not be a Governour, but would make himſelf King, in the extent of his Government: That thus, whereas all he intended to do, was only to augment his Authority, and be abſolute and independant, he would find himſelf abyſs'd, in the ſtormy Sea of Wars, which ſuch an *over-turning would occaſion; and that after he had thus Rioted the people, it would be no longer in his power to calm them: Theſe reaſons ſeem'd very pertinent to *Mahomet Amcari*; and as he had ever ſped in following the other Councils given him by *Aben Culeyman*, he plainly ſaw, that this he then gave him, departed from a man conſummated in the experience of State Affairs: Wherefore he bethought himſelf of an indubitable expedient, which was to rid himſelf of Prince *Almanzor*. He was reſolv'd not to communicate this thought to any other than the ſame *Aben Culeyman*; but that Wiſe Councellour ſtill endeavoured to divert him gently, and by the beſt reaſons he could bethink himſelf of, from ſo wicked a deſign; being in no wiſe

*Sutar, Rebellion.

wiſe able to approve of ſo horrible a cruelty, and ſo baſe and black an action. Nevertheleſs perceiving he could not root this intention out of his mind, he was furiouſly vex'd; and having at laſt reſolv'd upon applying a fitting remedy, he thought it to be time to diſcover the ſecret of this Treaſon, to the Captain-General, as to his beſt friend, and to the Prince his Maſters moſt Faithful Servant. *Muca* being much ſurpriz'd at ſuch an infidelity, having confirm'd his friend in the deſign he already had, of preventing ſo great a miſchief; after having concerted together what they had to do, and promis'd one another the ſtricteſt ſecreſie, they reſolv'd that *Aben Culeyman* ſhould continue to put the Regent upon this matter, of which he made him the confident; and that he ſhould endeavour to diſcover by what byaſs he pretended to bring about his deſign, that ſo they might by the ſame means break all his meaſures.

This being their reſult, *Aben Culeyman* happening to be with *Aincari* alone, did not fail to put him upon

that Chapter; and the Regent having told him, That finding the difficulties he had urg'd rational to all intents, he was reſolv'd to overcome them, by cauſing the Prince to be Poyſon'd; after which all things would be eaſie to him: *Aben Culeyman* having to this made him anſwer, That he was in the right; and having much ado to entertain the vexation he had on this account, he left him as ſoon as he could, and went in all haſt to inform *Muca*. Theſe two Truſty Servants, conſidering the blackneſs of the Regents action, and of what a conſequence it was to think of ſaving the Prince their Maſter, from the peril that was preparing againſt him, found there to be leſs evil in bereaving the Traytor *Mahomet Amcari* of his life, and fail him in that occaſion, than to keep his ſecret, to be Traytors to their Lawful King: Wherefore they both reſolv'd together, that they might make the leſs noiſe and diſorder, to invite him one day to Dinner, and to ſeize on his Perſon while at Table: But in the mean while, for fear

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the Prince ſhould fall into the Trap that was laid for him, while they were taking their meaſures for ſo hardy a deſign, they thought it convenient to inform the Queen of all that paſs'd, that ſo ſhe might be upon her Guard, againſt the Treaſon that was preparing againſt the Prince her Son. Whereupon *Muca* went to her with all Expedition, in that retir'd Houſe I mention'd; and having acquainted her with the Regents Perfidy, ſhe was much afflicted; but ſhe receiv'd comfort at the ſame, in having found ſuch Loyal Perſons as would diſcover it to her. *Muca* having intreated the Queen, to keep the matter very ſecret, as it highly became her to do, both for her Sons ſake, and the whole Kingdoms; and having aſſur'd him, ſhe might make account of him, and that he was reſolv'd to dye for her Service; he return'd in all haſt to the Court of *Mahomet*, the Regent.

CHAP. XXXI.

The Regent Amcari, *meaning to bereave Prince* Almanzor *of his Life, is diſcover'd, and puniſh'd for his Perfidy.*

MAhomet *Amcari*, ſtill contriving to work the Princes Death, and ſeeking for that purpoſe, the ſafeſt and leaſt noiſie means, caus'd a very rich * Garment to be made, to make him a Preſent of, as is cuſtomary at certain times: And after having caus'd it to be well prepar'd, with a very ſubtile Poyſon, ſent it to the Prince, with a thouſand other very gallant, and very curious Preſents.

* *Geybrim*, a Poyſon'd Robe.

All thoſe of the Queens Palace, ſeeing theſe Preſents unfolded, were immediately tranſported with the beauty of that Veſtment; all ſaying, That the Prince could not put on

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a finer: But the Queen being afraid of its being poyſon'd, would by no means ſuffer him to wear it that day, no not ſo much as try it: And the Night being come, to ſee if ſhe had any reaſon to harbour ſuch apprehenſions, ſhe had it put upon a great Greyhound, that was found dead on the morrow, his Skin all cover'd with Sores.

Mahomet's malice and deſign being then paſt all doubt, this generous Princeſs being very Prudent, and having a Courage above her Sex; without making any noiſe of the thing ſhe had diſcover'd, or of the reſolution ſhe had taken in her mind to puniſh ſuch an attempt, ſent to tell *Mahomet Amcari* the Regent, That the Prince would be very glad to ſee him, and ſhe alſo, to diſcourſe upon ſome matters of conſequence. And knowing him to be upon the way thither, ſhe caus'd all her Guards to keep the entrance of the Gate, as if it were to do him honour; but with order, That none of his ſhould be admitted in with him. As ſoon as he was entred, they ſeiz'd on

his Perſon, and brought him into the Queens preſence; who having reproach'd him with his perfidy, and told him how ſhe knew all his Treacherous deſign, ſhe had an Executioner call'd in, whom ſhe had at hand on purpoſe for his Execution, and had his Throat cut into the Baſon of a Fountain that was in the Caſtle: Then having caus'd his Body to be laid upon an Aſs, had it carry'd to *Carbal*, and ſo through all the Streets of that City, follow'd by the publick Criers, who by ſound of Trumpet, Proclaimed he was in that condition, for having deſign'd to Poyſon his King, and ſeize on the Crown; and after having left it in the publick place, ſhe caus'd his Head to be ſet upon the Gate of the City.

She did not long defer coming to *Carbal*, with the Prince her Son; and entring the Palace, ſhe ſent immediately for the two Faithful Servants, who had revealed to her this moſt Trayterous deſign; and told them, That the obligation ſhe lay under, for the Service they had

had both newly done her, was ſo great, that ſhe knew not how to expreſs the acknowledgement ſhe had of it; that the only reward proportionate to it, was the Regency of the State; that ſhe had had a deſign to give it to the one and to the other: but that as this great Authority which they both equally deſerv'd, could not be divided, and that ſhe was afraid of offending one of the two, if ſhe gave it to the other, ſhe was reſolv'd to Govern the beſt ſhe could her ſelf, without giving any one that Title; but that ſhe would ever manage all things by their Councils, and that they ſhould ever be the firſt of the State after her. They were both very well ſatisfy'd with this reſolution; and News being come of a Party that was framing in the *Weſt*, ſhe ſent them both, as thoſe in whom ſhe had moſt confidence; namely, *Aben Culeyman* into the Kingdom of *Thunis*, and *Muça* into that of *Morocco*, with an abſolute Authority, there to contain the People in their Duty. Whereupon they both departed from *Carbal*,

bal, cover'd with Honour and Teſtimonies of Eſteem and Affection, which the Queen and Prince gave them, and took their way towards the *Ponant*, where they ſafely arriv'd; but in a ſhort while after, *Aben Culeyman* falling ill, dy'd on the way: *Muca* ſpent his time in ſetting things in order, in a Kingdom he had ſo long ſince left; and Queen *Omhalair* remain'd ſole Regent.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXXII.

Prince Almanzor's *Death; the Queen his Mother dyes of Grief, in a ſhort time after, and* Ali Abilhachek *cauſes himſelf to be Proclaimed* Caliph.

QUeen *Ombalair* made it the whole ſtudy and application of her mind, to bring up well her Son, the Prince *Jacob Almanzor*, whom ſhe had ever in her Eye. One day when that ſhe was gone to Dine with him, in a Garden out of the Town, the Prince after Dinner threw himſelf upon a Bed, in a Room where he fell a ſleep; and a Spider having prick'd him in the Right Eye, his Face ſwell'd in ſuch a manner, and put him to ſuch great Pain, and occaſion'd ſuch dangerous Fits, as that he liv'd but ſeven days. The

The Queen laid his Death ſo to heart, that not being capable of receiving any Conſolation, or of ſurviving a Son, for whom ſhe had ſo tender an affection; ſhe fell into ſo great a Languiſhment, that all the Remedies of the Phyſicians in no wiſe eaſing her Malady, ſhe dy'd fifteen days after him.

Theſe two Deaths, ſo ſudden and ſo cloſe upon one another, occaſion'd a mighty amazement in the Court, that was for ſome time in ſuch a ſurprize, that their whole diſcourſe was upon ſo extraordinary a thing. But at length, coming to think that there was none left of the Race of the *Almanzors*, to whom the Crown appertain'd by Succeſſion; the Leading men of the *Arabians*, and the Governours of the Provinces, began to make their Cabals. One of them, call'd *Ali Abilhacheck*, chancing to have more Friends than the reſt, caus'd himſelf himſelf to be Proclaim'd *Caliph.*; and after having caus'd an Oath of Allegiance to be taken to him, and had his Coronation ſolemniz'd with great Pomp, with the Solemnity, and the Merriments

ments that are wont to be practic'd in ſuch like occaſions; he began with rewarding thoſe that rais'd him to the place he held, giving them Governments and Employs; inſomuch, that there was no body but on whom he conferr'd ſome favour: Beſides this, he apply'd himſelf in good earneſt to make regulations upon all abuſes that were introduc'd into the Government, and to do Juſtice to all thoſe that requir'd it of him, without making them wait; inſomuch that he acquir'd in a ſhort time not only a great Reputation, but alſo the friendſhip of all the people; they eſteem'd themſelves very happy in being govern'd by ſo good a King.

Thus ended the Line of the *Aboulvalid Almanzors.*

The End of the Firſt Part.